هكذا من الأصل







# THE TIMES

No. 66,101 SATURDAY JANUARY 17 1998 http://www.the-times.co.uk


# Revealed: the most tragic literary love story of our time


Hughes: targeted by critics

BY PETER STOTHARD

THE Poet Laureate, Ted Hughes, today breaks a 35-year silence over the life and suicide of his first wife, Sylvia Plath. In an extraordinary verse narrative, which begins on page 18 and will be continued in *The Times* next week, Hughes gives his account of one of the century's most celebrated and tragic love stories.

The existence of *Birthday Letters* has been among the best-kept literary secrets. Even many of Hughes's closest friends were unaware that he would give his side of a relationship that has led to his being attacked as a betrayer and murderer by disciples of Plath around the world. The poet and critic Andrew Motion, who was shown the book by *The Times* this week, describes the poems as "a thunderbolt from the blue".

"There is nothing like it in literature. It is, strictly speaking, extraordinary," he says in an article on page 22. "Its power is massive and instant."

Both Hughes and Plath are among the most read and studied of postwar poets. After student life in Cambridge and London, vividly depicted in *Birthday Letters*, Hughes became a critical and commercial success and was appointed Poet Laureate in 1984. Plath, who gassed herself in 1963 after the couple parted, became a frozen icon of betrayed womanhood. Feminism and political correctness have erected what Motion describes today as "a high wall" around Plath.

Attempts by biographers to recreate their life together have met intense suspicion. No one has succeeded in reconciling those who consider Hughes the patient husband of an impossible wife with those who see Plath as a genius abandoned at a time of weakness. Hostility to Hughes has been fortified by the later suicide of Assia Wevill, with whom he had a relationship after Plath.

Until today, Hughes has said almost nothing, except to correct errors of fact. He has been bruised by critical investigations, abuse on American campuses and the hacking of his name from Plath's gravestone in Yorkshire.

"Anyone who thought Hughes's reticence was proof of his hard heart will immediately see how stony they have been themselves," writes Motion. "This is a book written by someone obsessed, stricken and deeply loving. This is his greatest book, as magnetic as Browning's poems for Elizabeth Barrett, as poignant as Hardy's *Poems 1912-13*."

*Birthday Letters*, whose 88 poems have been written at intervals over the past decades, is certain, however, to reignite the controversy over both poets' lives and reputations. It is a painful story of two postwar figures, one British, one American; one English countryman, one exotic foreigner; one complex European; one simple girl from Massachusetts. Readers will be able for the first time to confront Hughes's account of the contradictions that others have found in their lives and the still-controversial death of the woman who wrote: "Dying is an art, like everything else. I do it exceptionally well."

*Birthday Letters* is published by Faber & Faber, price £14.99


The first poems, pages 18, 19
Andrew Motion, page 22
Leading article, page 23



Plath: gassed herself in 1963

# 'Designer baby' inquiry ordered

BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A REPORT has been ordered by the government watchdog on fertility treatments into the ethics of a pioneering technique that can guarantee healthy babies by diagnosing faulty embryos.

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority wants regulations in place to stop parents being exploited by clinics able to charge up to £3,000 for a service that makes it possible to identify embryos carrying genetic defects. As a flurry of licences for performing the technique are granted, the authority is anxious to eliminate any risk that it might be used to create "designer" babies.

"It is a very sensitive ethical area and we do need to have clear guidelines on what can be done," an authority spokesman said.

The technique was invented in Britain in 1989 at Hammersmith Hospital by a team led by Lord Winston, the infertility expert. It employs the identical fertilisation process used to help infertile couples. Eggs are collected from the women and fertilised with semen to create embryos.

After three days the embryo grows to ten cells. Two of these are removed and screened. If they are normal the embryo is implanted in the mother. If there are abnormalities the embryo can be thrown away.

The science is progressing at such a rate that within five years it should be possible to make a comprehensive diagnosis of all genetic defects in an embryo, widening the technique's potential commercial value and, at the same time, increasing the number of ethical questions raised.

The authority has so far licensed four centres to carry out the technique, three within the past year. This week it granted the first licence to a fertility clinic, which will be allowed to grow the embryo and then send cells from it to one of the four centres. There the cells can be screened for


Continued on page 2, col 4




Eat out for £5
SEE PAGE 90
the times magazine
FOR TOKEN 1



WEATHER ..... 32
CROSSWORD ..... 32
COURT & SOCIAL ..... 24
LETTERS ..... 23, 61
OBITUARIES ..... 25
SIMON JENKINS ..... 22
THEATRES ..... 21
BUSINESS NEWS ..... 27-31
UNIT TRUSTS ..... 50
SHARE PRICES ..... 26
WEEKEND MONEY 51-64
SPORT ..... 33-44
WEEKEND
GARDENING ..... 12, 13
PROPERTY ..... 9, 10
TRAVEL ..... 23-31
FAITH ..... 21



Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 60; Belgium B Frs 110; Canada $5.50; Canaries Pts 325; Cyprus CE1.20; Denmark Dkr 18.00; Finland Fmk 36.50; France F 18.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 900; Netherlands Fl 6.50; Italy L 4,500; Luxembourg Lf 100; Madeira Esc 350; Malta 45c, Morocco Dir 40.00; Norway Kr 30.00; Portugal con Esc 350; Spain Pts 325; Sweden Skr 35.00; Switzerland S Frs 5.50; Tunisia Din 3,200; USA $3.50.



MICHAEL POWELL

Will he or won't he play? While Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle United manager, was fending off the question as to whether today will mark the long-awaited return of Alan Shearer, England's most expensive footballer happily signed autographs yesterday. After an absence of six months Shearer appeared to display the kind of contentment that comes when a player feels he is nearing the field of play after breaking his ankle and rupturing ligaments.

## Shearer waits in the wings

Shearer, on whom the World Cup fortunes of England also rest, may make a comeback in Newcastle's FA Carling Premiership home match with Bolton Wanderers this afternoon. "I will not decide until before the game but he's in consideration," Dalglish said of the £15 million goalscorer who has been sorely missed by his club. "We will make decisions on Alan as responsibly as we have so far. We're not going to be stupid." Dalglish might have been tempted to rush Shearer back. The team have failed to win any of their last eight league matches and supporters have expressed discontent.


Dalglish dilemma, page 33


# Oldest mother left by her child's father

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

THE oldest woman in Britain to give birth has been left holding the baby after her lover returned to his estranged wife yesterday.

Peter Rawstron, 58, moved out of the farm cottage that he shared with farm-owner Elizabeth Buttle, who made history when she gave birth to their son Joe last November at the age of 60.

Vera Rawstron, 56, his wife of 30 years who still runs an agricultural business with her estranged husband, said last night: "He has left her and that's all there is to it. I've talked it through with him but I'm not going to say why he has packed his bags."

Mrs Rawstron admitted she was "quite pleased" when her husband told her that he had decided to end his two-year affair with Mrs Buttle. Earlier she had branded him a fool for fathering a baby with the grandmother. Mrs Buttle's grandson Nick Pleavin, 19, who lives on the farm, confirmed that Mr Rawstron was no longer there. "He's gone and that's that. My gran is a great woman and I'll be there to support her," he said.

Mrs Buttle is believed to have sold her story to a tabloid Sunday newspaper for £120,000 after spending the week under siege from the press in her isolated cottage.

The Rawstrons have four children of their own. Even after they split Mr Rawstron carried on seeing his wife virtually every day as they ran the business. At night he returned to Mrs Buttle who lives five miles away.

Before the separation, Mrs Buttle said she regretted not being able to bring the child up in a married relationship. She said: "I wish it was a happy family situation." However, she said she was delighted at the birth and felt well.

# Pig of a day for press gang

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

THE end of the great escape of the Tamworth Two was never going to be straightforward. Ten days after a dramatic escape from an abattoir the pursuit had grown from £50 of pork into £15,000 of much-prized pig.

One of the pair was caught by reporters from the *Daily Mail* on Wednesday night but yesterday morning the second remained at large.

However, as light dawned so did the realisation that capturing exclusively the second beast might prove somewhat difficult as a press contingent of 30, including foreign television cameras, were on the same trail.

Police and RSPCA officers, acting to keep the peace (and in the pig's best interests) decided that the pig was no longer in Harry Clarke's garden, where they, reporters and various spectators had spent the previous night trampling his flowerbeds hunting for it.

The *Mail* team, which had bought the pigs for £15,000, tried to insist on buyers' exclusivity, and asked the police for the enemy press to be penned in a secure area. The fenced courts of Malmesbury Tennis Club were suggested by one.

But the press, like the pigs, refused to be penned. Events unfolded as follows.

**11am:** RSPCA say they will beat bushes of thicket where pig is believed to be lurking and try to tranquillise it with dart gun. Press contingent sets off for thicket rumoured to be hiding place. Police request that press stay out of the vicinity.




**12 noon:** No sign of pig. PC Roger Bull informs press that the thicket is too dense and that two butchers from Stroud will be bringing a spaniel and a lurcher (Barney and Pepsi) to flush out the quarry.

The pigs' new owners huddle leaning against one of their fleet of black Cherokee jeeps discussing how they can still spirit the pig away exclusively.

**1pm:** Boot sets up pen on other side of thicket out of sight of television cameras to hold pig when caught. Butchers arrive in yellow transit van, one still in striped butcher's overall, perhaps misinterpreting his role or the only dress a butcher considers appropriate when addressing pork. Pepsi the springer spaniel is set into the thicket. Trees sway and barks can be heard but no pig emerges.

**1.30pm:** Three police officers decide to pursue dogs' trail, enticed by a flash of ginger. Louder barks can be heard accompanied by shouting


Continued on page 2, col 5

Leading article and Letters, page 23
Photograph, page 32


## Invincible to Gulf

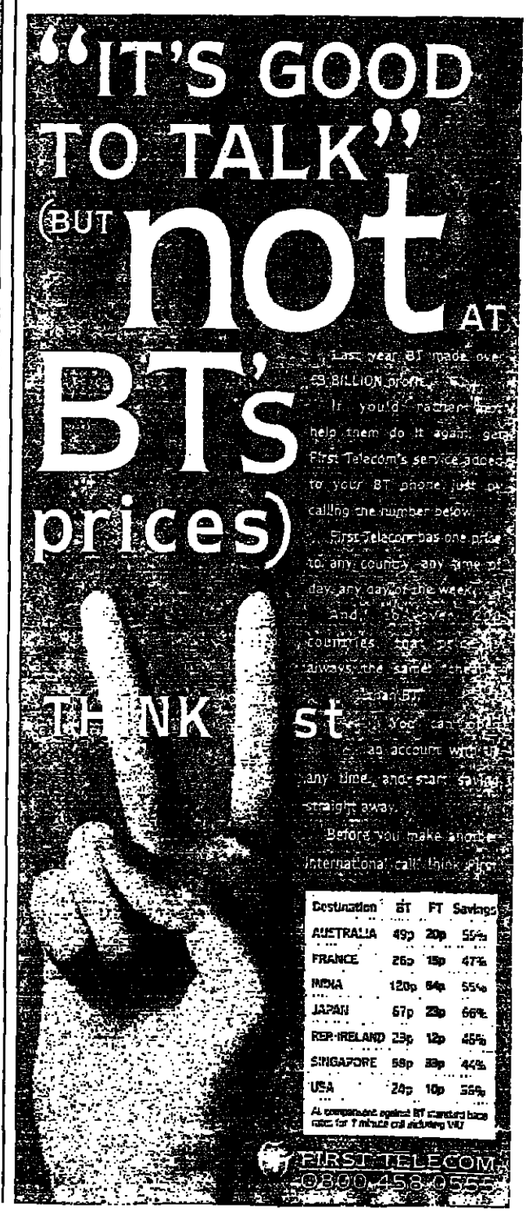
Britain reacted to the latest confrontation with Saddam Hussein by ordering the aircraft carrier *HMS Invincible*, now in the eastern Mediterranean, to leave for the Gulf where she will join two US carrier battle groups.. Page 17

## Girl tells of abuse

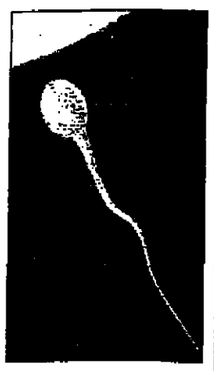
A primary school pupil who claims she was raped by two ten-year-old classmates suffered sexual abuse as a younger child, she told the Old Bailey. The girl, now ten, said she was raped in Jamaica when she was six ..... Page 5

## Spencer defeat

Earl Spencer's campaign for tougher privacy laws was set back when the European Commission of Human Rights rejected his attempt to take the British Government to court over press reports on his marriage and his former wife's illness ..... Page 6

## NEXT WEEK IN THE TIMES



**MONDAY**

**Infidelity: women's secret weapon to find the best genes**

Part 1 of our new series Baby Wars

**PLUS:** Ted Hughes on Sylvia Plath - marriage in a pink knitted dress



**TUESDAY**

Medical Chest by Dr Thomas Stuttaford

**Inter//face**

**WEDNESDAY**

**New look Interface**

The Queen goes online

**PLUS:** Crème de la Crème: the new 16-page supplement for secretaries



**THURSDAY**

**Titanic**

*The British verdict*

**FRIDAY**

Four pages of **Media** with Raymond Snoddy

**SATURDAY**

Naomi Campbell on glittering form

**PLUS:** John Lahr meets David Mamet

# Ministers to curb pay rises

## Public sector workers will face 2.5% ceiling, reports **Nicholas Wood**

MINISTERS have decided to cut pay awards to 1.3 million doctors, teachers, nurses and other public sector staff in a move risking a serious rift with their white-collar trade union supporters.

Hospital consultants on £56,470 a year will receive £16 a week less, average teachers (£21,591 a year) £6 a week less and newly qualified staff nurses (£12,385) £3.50 a week in the proposed clampdown.

Review body reports recommending increases of about 4 per cent for these groups will begin landing on Tony Blair's desk this week. But the Prime Minister and Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, are intent on maintaining the tight curbs on public sector salaries imposed by the last Government.

They will phase in the rises, paying about 2.5 per cent from April and the remaining 1 to 1.5 per cent from December. The formal announcement will come early next month.

Earlier this week Mr Brown and Alistair Darling, the Treasury Chief Secretary, underlined their determination to keep the lid on public-sector pay. "People have a choice between a wage rise or a mortgage rise," Mr Brown said.

Mr Darling declared: "People have to understand that to bring about long-term stable growth, pay increases must be fair and affordable."

Last night senior ministerial sources amplified the pay restraint message, giving warning that the Government was intent on sticking to the informal 2.5 per cent ceiling inherited from the Conservatives.

Any extra cash in the Treasury kitty for next year will be devoted to priority areas such as Welfare to Work, help for low-income families and boosting frontline health and education services.

The danger facing the Government is that intensifying the public sector pay squeeze could trigger a revolt by public sector trade unions representing 5 million workers. Unison, which represents 66,000 low-paid ancillary hospital staff, is seeking a 10 per cent rise. A similar claim has been tabled for 200,000 adminstrative, clerical, professional and technical staff in the NHS.

Trade union bosses are warning that unless the Government eases the pay reins in future years, it will have, if not a winter of discontent, a serious fight on its hands. The latest figures show average earnings racing ahead at 4.75 per cent a year and headline inflation at 3.6 per cent.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said cutting back the awards would be "mean-minded, petty and counterproductive".

It would jeopardise Mr Blair's goal of raising educational standards while generating anger and ill-will among staff. Partnership with the Government would be set back.



OWEN HUMPHREYS

Enid Golightly leaving court: she had no memory of how the injury happened

# Wife weeps as priest jailed for hammer attack

By Paul Wilkinson

AN ANGLICAN clergyman was jailed for five years yesterday for wounding his wife with a hammer in an apparently motiveless attack.

The trial of Michael Golightly, 54, a priest for 25 years, ended in high drama as his relatives broke down weeping and screaming at the verdict. Golightly looked stunned as Mr Justice Sedley told him he had been convicted on "the most compelling evidence" of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to his wife, Enid.

The jury acquitted him of attempted murder. A prison officer had to steady him as he was taken to the cells.

At first Mrs Golightly, 54, who had given evidence for her husband, did not seem to understand that he was being jailed, but when her sobbing daughter, Louise, explained, she erupted hysterically. Sitting in the front row of the public gallery at Newcastle Crown Court, she screamed: "Oh God, God no, no, He's a good husband to me, he's been so good to me. What am I going to do? I have got to have him to live with me."

Two of the eight women on the jury were obviously distressed by the scenes and after the Golightly family had left the judge said: "It is unusual for you to face a situation as traumatic as this. This was a verdict of you all, it was not yours alone. It should not cause you any anxiety. I do not know if counselling is available, but I shall inquire to see if it can be offered to any of you who might need it."

Golightly, a chaplain with an NHS community healthcare trust in Co Durham, had consistently denied attacking his wife with the 1.5lb ball-peen hammer as she lay in bed in August 1996. He suggested that she had fallen down the stairs of their Durham city home. Forensic science evidence showed that she had suffered one blow to the right side of her head and that it could have been caused only by the hammer.

Her skull was fractured and shards of bone were driven 30mm into her brain. Golightly claimed that he had found her at about 3.30pm at the foot of stairs and dialed 999 within 30 minutes, after realising she was badly hurt. Scientific evidence, however, indicated that the injury had been caused up to eight hours earlier, possibly as she slept.

The prosecution admitted that it could offer no motive for the attack. To all outward appearances the couple, who married in 1992 after both had been divorced, were content. Mrs Golightly, who admitted she had no memory of the incident, said that she could not believe he had been responsible.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Playing fields sale ends

The Government has announced legislation to stop the sale of school playing fields, after the loss of thousands of acres of land for development. In an attempt to help to raise the standard of team games and improve public health, the Government will order all state schools to seek consent before selling any land.

Planning controls will also be tightened to give the English Sports Council the right of appeal against local authority sales. Councils were warned not to sell before the law was changed. More than 5,000 sports grounds have been sold for development since 1981, and thousands more are under threat.

### Bloody Sunday

The Government is facing growing pressure to order a fresh investigation into the events of Bloody Sunday on January 30, 1972, when British paratroopers killed 13 demonstrators in Londonderry. Bertie Ahern, the Irish Prime Minister, telephoned Tony Blair to make "the strongest possible case" for an independent inquiry. A 1972 tribunal exonerated the paratroopers.

### Castle attack

Baroness Castle of Blackburn attacked Tony Blair's crusade to modernise welfare provision, accusing him of a "mish-mash of moralising". She told *The World at One* that "clever words do not feed or house anyone" as she criticised Mr Blair's roadshow to pave the way for sweeping benefit reforms, including the state pension.

### Tapper jailed

A blackmailer who used a scanner to record the mobile phone conversations between a businessman and his lover has been jailed for four years. Mervyn Ward, 48, of Monkseaton, Tyneside, demanded £6,000 after compiling 18 hours of tapes. He denied blackmail but was convicted at Teesside Crown Court.

### New press chief

Martin Sixsmith, former BBC correspondent in Moscow, is to become press secretary to Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary. Mr Sixsmith, 43, left the BBC last April. His post as director of information at the Department of Social Security with a staff of 40 was advertised with a salary of up to £70,000.

### Ambulance ban

A private ambulance driver who drove through red traffic lights in rush-hour London traffic at speeds up to 80mph to pick up an Arab patient who had arrived at Heathrow airport on a private plane was banned from driving for six months. Horseferry Road magistrates' court also fined 35-year-old Paul Haines £50.

# Tamworth hunt ends after pig of a day

**Continued from page 1**

"Over here, over here."

Striped butcher approaches press and says: "We have definitely got him — he's in there 15ft away." NBC, ITN, BBC, HTV, SKY TV crews raise cameras in anticipation.

The technician on the BBC safari-Land Rover erects satellite dish ready to transmit. *Mail* team watch anxiously, poised lest pig break in wrong direction. All goes quiet.

**2pm:** All unnervingly quiet. PC Bull announces that the pig has eluded them and the dogs need a rest.

**3pm:** Dogs still resting. Press and television consider sloping off to pub. Suddenly a rumour spread among photographers that the animal has been caught. Press pack corner PC Bull. There is no escape. He admits pig has been caught. It had been darted by RSPCA inspector and there would be a press conference and photocall in the car park of Dyson's Vacuum Cleaner factory at the top of the hill. Slower members of the press pack are all but trampled in the stampede.

**3.15pm:** RSPCA and landowner Carl Sadler emerge from corner of Dyson's car park and say they know nothing of press conference. Press pack mill around in extreme confusion before heading en mass to Malmesbury town square where they gather outside veterinary surgery suspecting their quarry is prone inside.

**3.30pm:** RSPCA inspector Mike Harley says press will be allowed inside to photograph the groggy animal. *Mail* man objects. Says he owns the pig but when challenged admits he cannot produce receipt. Police constable Andy Walden says :"We are trying to establish ownership of the animal. The representatives of a newspaper say they own it and do not want anyone taking picture."

NBC correspondent Donatella Lorch becomes agitated and points out 250 million people from coast to coast of the United States are awaiting report of fate of the pig.

**3.45pm:** *Mail* man proposes compromise. His photographer will take photograph of the animal and provide copies for others. This is unacceptable. Mr Stinchcoombe arrives with Subaru pickup to take pig for reunion with Butch. Vet Intervenes and say he intends to keep drugged pig for 48 hours for observation. Policeman tells Stinchcoombe he cannot move pig without permit from Min of Ag Fish and Food. Stinchcoombe tells wife to bring "Pig Movement Book" but vet Fran Baird is adamant pig is staying put.



Out for the count: the tranquillised pig

Press part happy the Tamworth Two's tale has come to an end though a happy reunion still awaits the two at an animal sanctuary where *the Mail* Beast have promised to keep them in clover for the rest of their natural days.

Vet Francis Baird said: "He is feeling a little groggy but I'm confident he'll make a full recovery. We're not taking any chances and we've padlocked the doors and chained them together. He's obviously a bright animal. We'll keep him in here for a day or two under observation."

Ms Lorch concluded: "The British reaction was fantastic and after all we are the makers of *Babe*. We all went wild at the sight of journalists doing very serious stand up reports about the pigs in the middle of a field."

In fact, the fame of the Tamworth Two has spread around the world.

The pigs were featured on the state-owned channel France 2 news at 1 pm and at 8 pm where they were seen eluding "les bobbies," no doubt much to the amusement of the French audience. LCI, the country's round-the-clock cable news channel also featured the run-away boars.

# 'Designer baby' inquiry is ordered

**Continued from page 1**

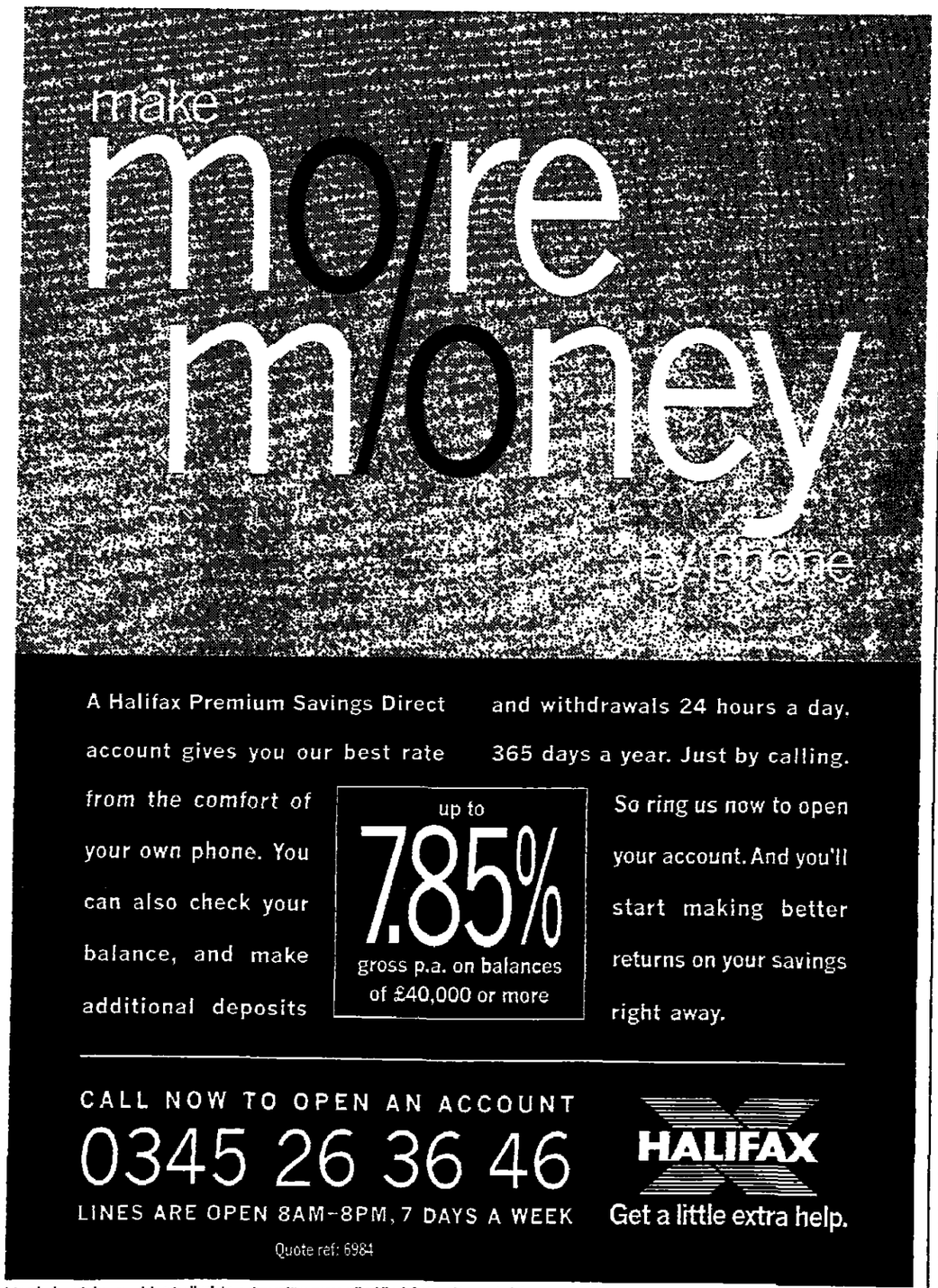
genetic faults. So far only the Hammersmith, which charges a loss-making £1,850 for the service, has carried out the technique, successfully arranging about 80 births of healthy babies. St Thomas's in central London was licensed a year ago and plans to charge the 100 couples it has seen so far between £1,500 and £2,000.

University College London was granted a licence eight months ago and will charge the 62 couples on its list between £2,000 and £2,500. Leeds General Infirmary has seen only three patients since it was licensed just before Christmas. It will wait until it has had 20 successful cases before making any charge. This week the Care Clininc in Nottingham was licensed to grow embryos and carry out a biopsy on them before sending cells to the UCL for screening. The result will be faxed back to Nottingham and the embryo will be implanted immediately if healthy. This service will cost £3,000.

Other clinics are seeking licenses and, with couples ready to pay large sums, the authority has decided the danger of the system being exploited commercially is real. Even couples with no reason to think they are at risk might try to buy the treatment if it were more widely available. One male in ten unknowingly carries faulty genes that can give a child cystic fibrosis if his partner is also affected.

With some experts claiming the technique is potentially as important as cloning, the authority has set up a committee of clinicians, scientists and ethicists to produce a consultative document by April on how it should be regulated.

Yesterday Lord Winston gave a warning that the technique was still in its infancy. "Single cell diagnosis is open to all sorts of error. Ethically it is better than a termination of pregnancy, but there are people who want to make a bit of a killing out of it."




A Halifax Premium Savings Direct account gives you our best rate from the comfort of your own phone. You can also check your balance, and make additional deposits and withdrawals 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Just by calling. So ring us now to open your account. And you'll start making better returns on your savings right away.

up to 7.85% gross p.a. on balances of £40,000 or more

CALL NOW TO OPEN AN ACCOUNT

0345 26 36 46

LINES ARE OPEN 8AM–8PM, 7 DAYS A WEEK

Quote ref: 6984

HALIFAX

Get a little extra help.

Interest rate quoted is gross. Interest will only be paid gross (this means without the deduction of income tax) if you are registered with us as a non-taxpayer. Halifax Premium Savings Direct is not available as club, charity or trust account, nor as a company, partnership or other kind of business account. Minimum investment £10,000. Accounts with balances below £10,000 receive interest at a lower rate. The closure of your Halifax Premium Savings Direct account is regarded as a withdrawal. Please note that you can only make two withdrawals a year. Additional information is available by telephoning 0345 26 36 46 or from any Halifax branch. Halifax plc, Trinity Road, Halifax HX1 2RG.

هكذا من الإصل



# Dyslexic boy, 14, wins a place at Cambridge

**Parents' refusal to accept that their bullied son was a write-off has been rewarded, reports David Charter**

A BOY of 14, who is so severely dyslexic that he can barely write, has become the youngest person to win a place at Cambridge this century.

Alexander Faludy, who writes at the rate of about two words a minute in a scrawl only he can read, dictated essays about the rationalist argument for God and the influence of Classicism on the work of Andrea Palladio to convince Peterhouse to admit him to read theology and history of art.

His success is testament not only to an extraordinary talent, but also to his parents' struggle to have his abilities recognised. Andrew and Tanya Faludy, who are both English teachers in Hampshire, fought to allow Alexander to drop mathematics and science at 11 and concentrate on his strengths.

They knew they had a prodigy in the family when, at three years old, Alexander listened to tapes of *Thomas the Tank Engine* and recited them verbatim afterwards. Next came Tolkein. "At five years old, his response to Tolkein was moving and impressive. Something exceptional was going on in his head," Mrs Faludy said. "We think it is all part of his dyslexic brain because it makes connections a normal brain would not make."

At first it was Alexander's extreme clumsiness and his inability to write that set him apart at school. At nine, when he became the youngest person to pass English GCSE (with a B grade), he was ranked 20th out of 22 in his primary class. At 11 he passed English literature A level (another B grade), reading on to tape his analysis of Shakespeare, Milton and the metaphysical poets. But, after he was attacked by bullies, his parents withdrew him from state school and he began an Open University arts degree at home.

"I am mathematically subnormal and since I hated the subject so much it seemed pointless to try to make me do it," Alexander said. "My handwriting is really illegible, but I can think directly on to tape. I can just see the essay taking shape, which is something I just cannot do on paper."

His parents scoured the country for a place that would accept their son on his own terms and found Milton Abbey, a small boys-only boarding school in Dorset. In three years he has broadened not only his academic but his social education, to the point where his parents believe he is ready for Cambridge.



Andrew and Tanya Faludy and daughter Emily, 10

"We thought he should grow up in the company of his contemporaries because 11 was too young to send him to university," Mrs Faludy said. "Now we feel his mind is ready for the cut and thrust of academic debate which a correspondence course cannot really provide."

Peterhouse last week won the right from the university authorities to waive the normal entrance requirement of five GCSEs because of Alexander's "unusual circumstanes".

Martin Golding, an admissions tutor at the college, said: "We tested him very thoroughly and decided to make him an offer as we thought he was very promising. He has suceeded against very considerable adversity and we feel that Cambridge, with its small group teaching, is possibly the best place for him to flourish."

At nearly 6ft tall, Alexander looks every inch the gauche undergraduate in his green corduroy trousers, waistcoat and tie. He could not be more different from the "scared little boy" who arrived at Milton Abbey and was taken under the wing of Andrew Day, the housemaster, and his wife, Yvette.

In his first week at Milton Abbey, Mrs Day found Alexander creeping around its imposing 14th-century buildings. "He thought he would be tripped up at every corner," she says. "Although he does not necessarily relate well to his own peer group he has developed some very good friendships, and the fear has all gone. This was the first environment where it was accepted that he would follow this slightly strange path."

The teachers found themselves coming to Alexander's tiny study for the pleasure of his conversation. Alexander spends most of the day here, listening to audio books and attending just a handful of lessons "for fun", mainly theology and art.

"People with different interests go and talk to him about everything: politics, art, history," Mrs Day said. "It is an amazing thing to work with a child who has already reached his level of intelligence."

Alexander says his interest in Cambridge was sparked by the audio book of *Porterhouse Blue* which he heard when he was ten. "It gives you a rather amusing and exaggerated view of the place," he said. "I enjoyed the descriptions of the atmosphere and its quaint traditions."

He will be 15 when he goes up, unaccompanied by either parent.

"I am greatly looking forward to Cambridge," he said. "If you are living with your parents you cannot really enjoy university."

PETER NICHOLLS



Alexander Faludy in his study with Yvette Day: "It is amazing to work with him"

# Minors who show major talent

BY OUR EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

CHILD prodigies in the arts who reach Oxford or Cambridge are even rarer than the occasional mathematical or scientific genius.

William Pitt the Younger (Pembroke 1773) may well have been the last 14-year-old undergraduate at Cambridge. The university says it rarely admits students younger than 18 because it believes they should be able to participate in "every aspect of university life".

In common with many prodigies, Pitt had been educated at home by his father. He left Cambridge at 17 under an ancient privilege allowing the sons of the nobility to graduate without passing any examinations. Four years later he was Prime Minister.

Adam Smith, the economist who wrote *The Wealth of Nations*, was also 14 when he went to Glasgow University in 1737, which led to a scholarship at Oxford in 1740.

Edward Gibbon, who wrote *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, went to Oxford in 1752, three weeks before his 15th birthday. Both Smith and Gibbon were disappointed at the standard of teaching. Gibbon described his 14 months at Magdalen as "the most idle and unprofitable of my life."

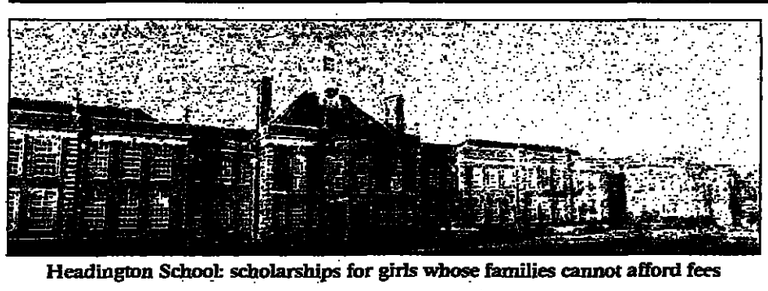
The youngest undergraduate currently at Oxford is Sufiah Yusof, who started her mathematics degree last year aged 13. The youngest-ever university graduate is believed to be Michael Kearney, who received his BA in anthropology from the University of South Alabama in 1994 aged ten.

David Fontana, an expert on gifted children at the University of Wales, said there was no general rule on how parents could ensure the success of children who showed exceptional talent.

He said: "Someone who is very advanced for their age in academic or musical or sporting skills is not necessarily emotionally advanced. History may seem to have its examples of famous child prodigies such as Mozart and Liszt but history is not very interested in prodigies who burn out young and disappear."



Adam Smith, left, went to Oxford aged 17; Pitt the Younger was 14 when he enrolled at Cambridge



Headington School: scholarships for girls whose families cannot afford fees

# Girls' school gets a £1m goodbye from Miss Chips

BY JOHN O'LEARY EDUCATION EDITOR

A RETIRED history teacher has bequeathed her secret £1.2 million fortune so that girls from poorer families can go to the independent school where she spent most of her career.

Celia Marsh, who died in October, aged 95, joined Headington School, Oxford, in 1937, stayed until she retired in 1963 and continued teaching part-time for several years. She was a frequent visitor even in her nineties, when she moved into a nursing home near by. One of her former pupils, Baroness Young, the former Tory Education Minister who chairs Headington's governors, said: "The school was her whole life. I suppose she was a kind of female Mr Chips."

Miss Marsh had told staff that she would remember the school in her will but few of her friends had any idea that she was a millionairess. Although not from a wealthy background, it is believed that she invested wisely in the 1970s on advice from a friend, and inherited some money from her brother Basil, a postman, who shared her house. She travelled widely after retiring but shunned a lavish lifestyle as her fortune grew in later life.



Celia Marsh: a "quite remarkable teacher"

Baroness Young said: "She was one of those quite remarkable teachers you never forget. I can still see her in my mind's eye, captivating the class with her enthusiasm. To say I was astonished by the size of the bequest would be the understatement of the year. I had to ask the bursar to repeat it when he rung to tell me."

In accordance with her wishes, the £1.2 million will go into scholarships and bursaries for girls whose families could not afford the £10,000-a-year fees. Hilary Fender, the headmistress, said the first four sixth-form scholarships would be awarded this year and bursaries for younger girls would follow. The bequest was particularly timely because of the abolition of the Assisted Places Scheme.

# PC escaped death twice in IRA bombing

BY STEWART TENDLER

A POLICEMAN who survived the London Docklands bomb told the Old Bailey yesterday that he was almost run over as he lay recovering from the blast.

PC Roger de Graaf was giving evidence in the trial of two men accused of plotting the IRA attack. After a warning he found the bomb lorry at South Quay, next to a newsagent's where the two victims were working. The registration was wrong.

One man was just leaving the newsagent's to fetch stock and the PC warned him it was best to leave the area. The man said he would go to lock up before leaving. Minutes later, the bomb exploded.

"I felt myself falling on the ground," PC de Graaf said. Then he saw a car travelling towards him: "I rolled out of the way and it stopped just short of me." PC de Graaf needed 17 stitches.

James McCardle, 30, from Crossmaglen, South Armagh, and Patrick McKinley, 34, from Mullaghbawn, near Newry, Co. Down, deny conspiracy to cause the explosion. McCardle also denies the murder of two men in the blast. The case continues.

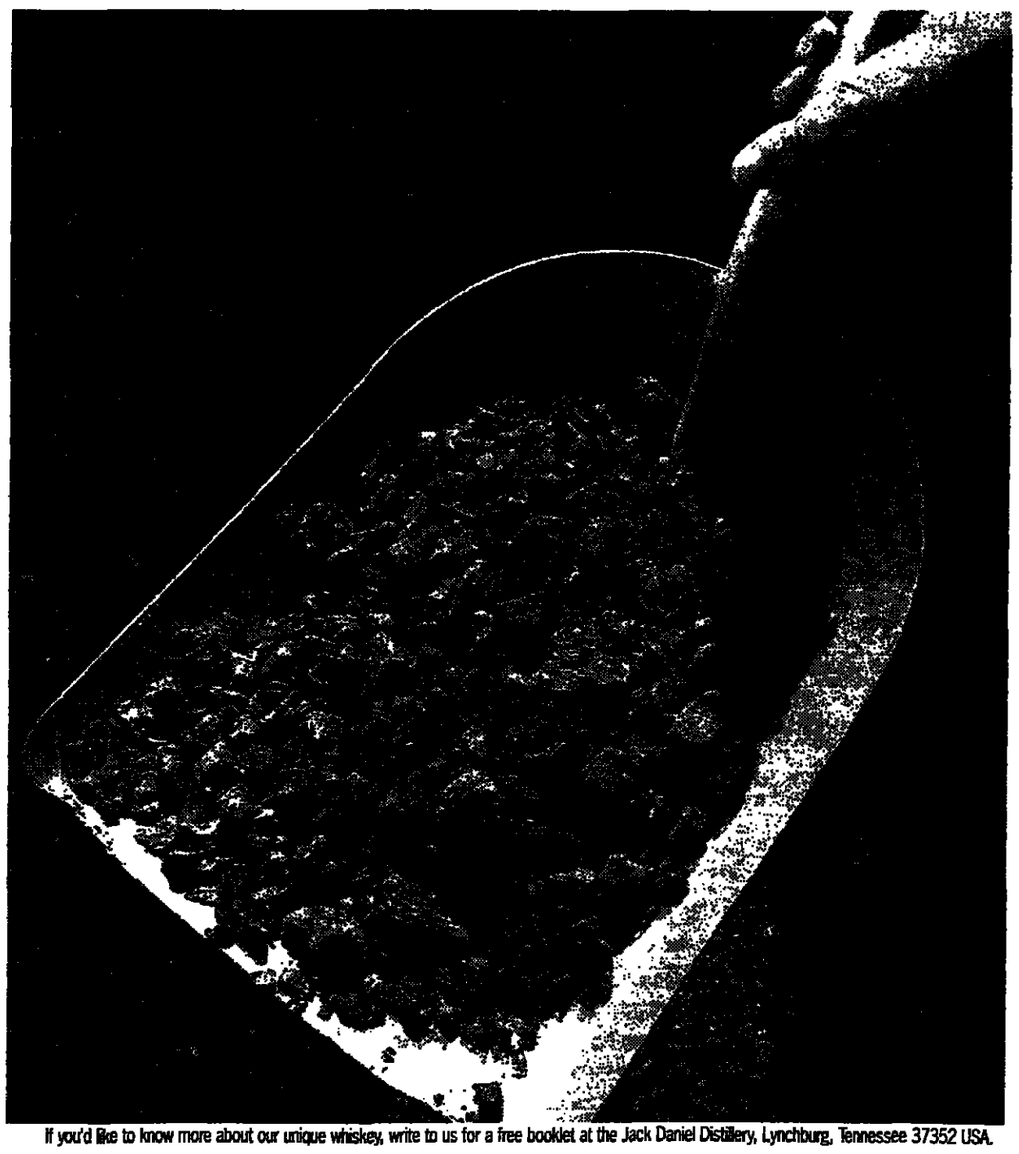
# Evans sacks star who taunted him

BY CAROL MIDGLEY MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE award-winning Virgin Radio presenter Jonathan Coleman has been sacked by his new boss Chris Evans, it emerged yesterday. Before Evans took over, Coleman regularly made jibes about his rival Radio 1 breakfast show.

The announcement of Coleman's departure was made while he was in his native Australia with his mother, Sylvia, who is ill. His co-presenter Russell Williams — the other half of the successful "Russ 'n' Jono" team — is staying at the station bought by Evans for £85 million late last year. A Virgin Radio spokesman said: "The show had run its course and Jonathan is moving on. All good things must come to an end and we wish Jono every success in the future."

Coleman taunted Evans with his Sony Award for best breakfast show, a missed prize that angered Evans so much he refused to accept his Broadcaster of the Year award at the same ceremony. When Evans walked out of Radio 1 because they would not give him Fridays off to prepare his Channel 4 show, Coleman pointed to his own five-days-a-week presenter's job at Channel 5, and said Evans was a lightweight. Williams will now follow Evans's show at 10am each day. The spokesman said: "Russ has always been a music presenter, whereas Jono was more of a personality."

If you'd like to know more about our unique whiskey, write to us for a free booklet at the Jack Daniel Distillery, Lynchburg, Tennessee 37352 USA.

OUR RICKERS SAY the charcoal used to mellow Jack Daniel's is ready when it rattles in the shovel.

Stacking and burning a rick of hard maple wood into charcoal takes a strong back and a sharp ear. We prize these qualities in our rickers, because charcoal is what makes Jack Daniel's so rare. We grind it, tamp it into room-high vats and then gently seep every drop through it. We've done so since 1866. It may seem we go to a lot of trouble to smooth our whiskey this way. But after a sip, you'll be glad we do.




JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

# Currys

# SALE

PLUS EXTRA DISCOUNTS

BUY NOW PAY 1999

ON A HUGE RANGE OF TOP BRAND PRODUCTS†

## LAUNDRY SAVE UP TO A TOTAL OF £140

EXTRA DISCOUNT
CANDY 1200 Spin Autowasher Model C1261. Was £399.99. Was £259.99. In-store Price £249.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £140 VOUCHER PRICE £259.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
CREDA 1000 Spin Autowasher Model 17086. Was £399.99. Was £299.99. In-store Price £279.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £130 VOUCHER PRICE £269.99

HOTPOINT 800 Spin Autowasher Model WM51P. Was £349.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £299.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
ZANUSSI 1000 Spin Autowasher Model FL1085. Was £479.99. In-store Price £379.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £120 VOUCHER PRICE £359.99

HOTPOINT 1000 Spin Autowasher Available in Linen, Mercury or Polar White. Model WM62. Was £449.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £80 SALE PRICE £369.99

BOSCH 1000 Spin Autowasher Model WFB2004 Was £499.99. Was £399.99. Was £389.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £120 SALE PRICE £379.99

HOTPOINT 1100 Spin 'Aquarius' Autowasher Model WM63. Was £499.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £399.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
ZANUSSI 1200 Spin 'Jetsystem' RSP Autowasher Model FJ1295. Was £569.99. Was £469.99. In-store Price £479.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £110 VOUCHER PRICE £459.99

BOSCH 1000 Spin Autowasher
- Delay start timer.
- Very quiet operation.

Model WFF2000GB. Was £629.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £130 SALE PRICE £499.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
HOOVER 1100 Spin 'Soft Wave' Washer Dryer Model A875A/WS115. Was £549.99. In-store Price £369.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £180 VOUCHER PRICE £369.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
WHITE KNIGHT 7lb Tumble Dryer 2 heat settings. Model 311. In-store Price £139.99. — SAVE £40 VOUCHER PRICE £99.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
WHITE KNIGHT 11lb Tumble Dryer Model 412 Was £169.99. In-store Price £129.99. — SAVE £50 VOUCHER PRICE £119.99

## DISHWASHERS SAVE UP TO £225

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SERVIS Full Size Dishwasher Model 4306. Was £369.99. In-store Price £249.99 — SAVE £140 VOUCHER PRICE £229.99

ZANUSSI Full Size Dishwasher Model DW907. Was £429.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £130 SALE PRICE £299.99

HOTPOINT Full Size 'Aquarius' Dishwasher Available in Polar White, Linen or Mercury Model DF61P. Was £449.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £349.99

HOTPOINT Full Size Dishwasher Available in Polar White, Linen and Mercury. Model DF62P. Was £469.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £90 SALE PRICE £379.99

BOSCH Slimline Dishwasher Model SP55462GB. Was £489.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £389.99

BOSCH Full Size Dishwasher 12 place settings. Model SGS5302GB. Was £519.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £120 SALE PRICE £399.99

MIELE Full Size Dishwasher Model G665SCW. Was £824.99. Was £724.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £225 SALE PRICE £599.99

## REFRIGERATION SAVE UP TO £120

EXTRA DISCOUNT
NOVA SCOTIA 3.8 cu.ft. Chest Freezer Model CF380. In-store Price £109.99 — SAVE £10 VOUCHER PRICE £99.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
LEC 4.0 cu.ft. Fridge Adjustable thermostat. Model R106. Was £199.99. In-store Price £139.99 — SAVE £70 VOUCHER PRICE £129.99

FRIGIDAIRE 5.4 cu.ft. Larder Fridge Automatic defrost. Model R1586H. Was £199.99. Was £149.99. — SAVE £60 SALE PRICE £139.99

CANDY 4.1 cu.ft. Upright Freezer
- 4-star freezer rating.
- Fast freeze facility.

Model CV1205. Was £259.99. Was £179.99. — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £159.99

HOTPOINT 4.9 cu.ft. Larder Fridge
- Automatic defrost.
- Shaped salad crisper.

Model RL03P. Was £279.99. Was £179.99. — SAVE £110 SALE PRICE £169.99

LEC 3.7 cu.ft. Upright Freezer Model U105 Was £249.99. — SAVE £80 SALE PRICE £169.99

WHIRLPOOL 8.7 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer Model ART500. Was £269.99. Was £219.99. — SAVE £80 SALE PRICE £189.99

HOTPOINT 5.5 cu.ft. Larder Fridge Model RL63P. Was £299.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £60 SALE PRICE £239.99

FRIGIDAIRE 10 cu.ft. Larder Fridge Model RLE1096H. — SUPERB VALUE CURRYS PRICE £249.99

HOTPOINT 4.2 cu.ft. Upright Freezer
- Fast freeze facility.
- Also available in Mercury or Linen.

Model RZ63P. Was £329.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £80 SALE PRICE £249.99

LEC 8.3 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer Model N216. Was £369.99. In-store Price £279.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 VOUCHER PRICE £269.99

ELECTROLUX 10.2 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer 4.7 cu.ft. fridge. Model ER7946B. Was £449.99. Was £349.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £120 SALE PRICE £329.99

ZANUSSI 8.1 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer Model ZFK61/27. Was £429.99. Was £339.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £329.99

HOOVER 8.2 cu.ft. Frost-Free Fridge Freezer 4.6 cu.ft. fridge. Model RCM24F. Was £499.99. Was £399.99 BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £120 SALE PRICE £379.99

HOTPOINT 12.0 cu.ft. Mistral Plus Frost-Free Fridge Freezer 7.2 cu.ft. deep door fridge - holds 8-packs Model 8596P Was £719.99 BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £120 SALE PRICE £599.99

## COOKERS SAVE UP TO £300

EXTRA DISCOUNT
BEKO 50cm Slot-In Electric Cooker Model DC210 Was £299.99. In-store Price £219.99 — SAVE £100 VOUCHER PRICE £199.99

VALOR 50cm Slot-in Gas Cooker Separate oven and grill. Model 510. Was £349.99. Was £259.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £249.99

CREDA 50cm Slot-in Electric Cooker
- Double oven.
- Sealed plate hob.

Model 49134. Was £499.99. Was £369.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £140 SALE PRICE £359.99

LEISURE 55cm Slot-in Gas Cooker Available in Racing Green, Regal Blue or Black. Model RANGEMASTER 55 Was £799.99. Was £599.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £220 SALE PRICE £579.99

BELLING 60cm Slot-in Electric Cooker Model 626. Was £949.99. Was £699.99. BUY NOW PAY 10 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £270 SALE PRICE £679.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
STOVES 110cm Slot-in Dual Fuel Rangestyle Cooker Model DR1102. In-store Price £1599. BUY NOW PAY 1999† Delivery direct from manufacturer — SAVE £300 VOUCHER PRICE £1299

## MICROWAVES SAVE UP TO A TOTAL OF £80

EXTRA DISCOUNT
DAEWOO 0.6 cu.ft. Microwave Available in White, Blue or Green. Model 6167. Was £99.99. In-store Price £79.99. — SAVE £25 VOUCHER PRICE £74.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
MATSUI 1.0 cu.ft. Touch Control Microwave Model 295TC. Was £179.99 In-store Price £109.99 — SAVE £80 VOUCHER PRICE £99.99

PANASONIC 0.8 cu.ft. Microwave with Grill
- 800 watts microwave power.
- 1300 watts variable quartz grill.

Model NNK657. Was £199.99. — SAVE £20 CURRYS PRICE £179.99

SANYO 1.1 cu.ft. Microwave with Convection Oven and Grill Super Shower Wave. Model EM-D953 Was £269.99. Was £249.99. — SAVE £40 SALE PRICE £229.99

## VACUUM CLEANERS SAVE UP TO HALF PRICE

EXTRA DISCOUNT
GOBLIN Cylinder Cleaner Model RIO1100. Was £69.99. In-store Price £49.99. — SAVE £25 VOUCHER PRICE £44.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
ELECTROLUX Cylinder Cleaner 1300 watt motor. Model TANGO 1661. Was £129.99. In-store Price £69.99. — HALF PRICE VOUCHER PRICE £64.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
ELECTROLUX 1100 Watt Upright Cleaner Model 1436. Was £159.99. In-store Price £119.99. — SAVE £50 VOUCHER PRICE £109.99

DYSON Dual Cyclone Upright Cleaner in Blue
- 1200 watt motor.
- Dual cyclone filtration.

Model DC01 BLUE. — BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† CURRYS PRICE £199.99

DYSON Dual Cyclone Cylinder Cleaner
- 1200 watt.
- Hepa filter.

Model DC02 ABSOLUTE. Was £379.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £229.99

## PCs AND PRINTERS SAVE UP TO £200

ACER Intel® 200MHz MMX™ Technology Multimedia PC with 33.6k Modem
- 16MB RAM/2.1Gb hard drive.
- 16-speed CD-ROM drive.
- 15" monitor.

Model ACROS P200. Was £1399. Was £1099. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† HURRY! WHILE STOCKS LAST — SAVE £200 SALE PRICE £999

COMPAQ Intel® 233MHz MMX™ Technology Multimedia PC with 33.6k Modem
- 16Mb RAM/4Gb hard drive.
- 24-speed CD-ROM drive. Model 4525. Was £1599.

SAVE £200 BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† DISPLAY STOCK ONLY *Model CANON BJC250 Colour Inkjet Printer. — CURRYS PRICE £1399

LEXMARK Colour Inkjet Printer Up to 3 pages per minute print speed. Model 2030. Was £149.99. Was £129.99. HURRY! WHILE STOCKS LAST — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £109.99

HEWLETT PACKARD All-in-one Colour Printer/Plain Paper Fax/Copier/Scanner Model OFFICE JET 590. Was £399.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £349.99

## CD HI-FI SYSTEMS SAVE UP TO A TOTAL OF £200

EXTRA DISCOUNT
MATSUI Ultra-Compact CD Micro Hi-Fi Model MCH750. Was £149.99. Was £89.99. In-store Price £79.99. — SAVE £50 VOUCHER PRICE £69.99

SONY Ultra-Compact CD Micro Hi-Fi
- Digital tuner.
- Megabass.

Model PMC205. Was £159.99. — SAVE £10 SALE PRICE £149.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SANYO Ultra-Compact CD Micro Hi-Fi Model DCM55. Was £229.99. In-store Price £199.99. — SAVE £50 VOUCHER PRICE £179.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
JVC CD Mini Hi-Fi Plays up to 3 CDs. Model DS01. Was £289.99. Was £279.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £60 VOUCHER PRICE £239.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
AIWA CD Mini Hi-Fi Multiplay – plays up to 3 CDs. Model NSX-V81. Was £399.99. In-store Price £349.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 VOUCHER PRICE £299.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
AIWA Dolby Pro-Logic CD Hi-Fi with Turntable Model ZVR-750. Was £499.99. In-store Price £429.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £150 VOUCHER PRICE £349.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
AIWA Dolby Pro-Logic CD Hi-Fi with Multiplay – plays up to 3 CDs. Model MHCX90. Was £379.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £30 SALE PRICE £349.99

AIWA Dolby Pro-Logic CD Mini Hi-Fi Multiplay – plays up to 3 CDs. Model AV95. Was £449.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £60 SALE PRICE £439.99

SONY CD Hi-Fi with Turntable
- Multiplay – plays up to 5 CDs.
- 120 watts (RMS) per channel.

Model X86. Was £549.99. Was £499.99 BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £70 CURRYS PRICE £479.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
WHARFEDALE CD Mini Hi-Fi Model SV5990. Was £799.99. In-store Price £699.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £200 CURRYS PRICE £599.99

AIWA Dolby Pro-Logic CD Hi-Fi with Turntable Multiplay – plays up to 5 CDs. Model ZD4500. Was £799.99. Was £749.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £100 SALE PRICE £699.99

## TELEVISIONS SAVE UP TO £110

MATSUI 14" Portable TV 34cm visible screen size. Model 1436. Was £124.99. — SAVE £5 CURRYS PRICE £119.99

MATSUI 20" Remote Control TV with Teletext 49cm visible screen size. Model 20V1T. Was £199.99. SAVE £20 *Model TVS21BA Ask for details — FREE STAND* CURRYS PRICE £179.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
GRUNDIG 21" NICAM Stereo TV with Fastext 51cm visible screen size. Model ST5175. Was £329.99. In-store Price £279.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £80 VOUCHER PRICE £249.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
TOSHIBA 21" NICAM Stereo TV with Fastext 51cm visible screen size. Model 2173. Was £379.99. In-store Price £299.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £110 VOUCHER PRICE £269.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
BUSH 28" NICAM Stereo TV with Teletext 66cm visible screen size. Model 2828ITX. Was £449.99. In-store Price £374.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 VOUCHER PRICE £349.99

HITACHI 25" NICAM Stereo TV with Fastext 59cm visible screen size. Model 2567. Was £479.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £80 CURRYS PRICE £399.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
MATSUI 28" NICAM Stereo TV with Teletext 66cm visible screen size. Model 2828ITX. Was £449.99. In-store Price £374.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £100 VOUCHER PRICE £349.99

SONY 25" NICAM Stereo TV with Fastext 59cm visible screen size. Model 25F1. Was £479.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £30 SALE PRICE £449.99

HITACHI 28" NICAM Stereo TV with Fastext 66cm visible screen size. Model 2867. Was £529.99. Was £499.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £50 CURRYS PRICE £479.99

PANASONIC 28" Widescreen TV with Dolby Pro-Logic Surround Sound 66cm visible screen size. Model TX-W28R30DP. Was £899.99. Was £849.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £100 CURRYS PRICE £799.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SONY 28" Widescreen TV with Dolby Pro-Logic Surround Sound 66cm visible screen size. Model 28WE2. Was £899. In-store Price £849. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £70 VOUCHER PRICE £829

TOSHIBA 33" Dolby Pro-Logic Surround Sound TV with Fastext 80cm visible screen size. Model 3377. Was £1499. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £200 SALE PRICE £1299

## VIDEO RECORDERS SAVE UP TO A TOTAL OF £105

EXTRA DISCOUNT
MATSUI 4-Head Long Play Video with VideoPlus and PDC Model VP956. Was £179.99. In-store Price £149.99. — SAVE £50 VOUCHER PRICE £129.99

SHARP Long Play Video with VideoPlus Model VCMC71. Was £179.99. In-store Price £169.99. — SAVE £40 VOUCHER PRICE £139.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
MATSUI 4-Head NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Model VP9605. Was £199.99. In-store Price £189.99. — SAVE £20 VOUCHER PRICE £179.99

TOSHIBA Long Play Video with VideoPlus and PDC
- On-screen display.
- Index search.

Model V226. Was £229.99. — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £179.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
FERGUSON NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Model FV205. Was £299.99. In-store Price £199.99. — SAVE £105 VOUCHER PRICE £194.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SANYO NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Model VHR277. Was £279.99. In-store Price £249.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £40 VOUCHER PRICE £239.99

TOSHIBA 4-Head NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC
- Auto set-up.
- Index search.

Model V727. Was £329.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £279.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SONY NICAM Stereo Video with VideoPlus and PDC Model SLVE70. Was £349.99. Was £349.99. Was £329.99. In-store Price £319.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £70 VOUCHER PRICE £309.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
PANASONIC NICAM Stereo Video with Speaker Control Model NVHD60. Was £949.99. In-store Price £899.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £50 VOUCHER PRICE £399.99

## CAMCORDERS SAVE UP TO £200

WHICH CAMERA? BEST BUY
JVC VHS-C Camcorder with 14x Hyper Zoom Model GRAX55. Was £429.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £30 SALE PRICE £399.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SANYO 8mm Camcorder with Colour Viewfinder Model VMEX580. Was £549.99. Was £479.99. In-store Price £429.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† £80 FREE ACCESSORIES Ask for details — SAVE £150 VOUCHER PRICE £399.99

CANON Hi-8 Camcorder with Hi-Fi Stereo Sound 22x zoom lens. Model UCX10Hi. Was £599.99. Was £549.99. Was £599.99. Was £549.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £200 CURRYS PRICE £499.99

SANYO 8mm Camcorder with 2.5" Colour LCD Screen 16x zoom lens. Model VMLC100. Was £549.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† — SAVE £50 SALE PRICE £499.99

EXTRA DISCOUNT
SONY Hi-8 Camcorder with 15x Zoom Model TR620 Was £699.99. In-store Price £629.99. BUY NOW PAY 1999† — SAVE £100 VOUCHER PRICE £599.99

## PORTABLE & PERSONAL CD HI-FI SAVE UP TO £30

AMSTRAD Portable CD System
- Top loading CD player.
- FM/AM Stereo radio.

Model MCD35. Was £89.99. — SAVE £30 SALE PRICE £59.99

HITACHI Portable CD System
- FM/AM radio.
- Tone control.

Model CX110. Was £79.99. — SAVE £10 SALE PRICE £69.99

SANYO Anti-Shock Personal CD Player
- Bass X-pander.
- Includes car adaptor kit.

Model CDP360. Was £89.99. Was £79.99. — SAVE £20 SALE PRICE £69.99

PANASONIC Anti-Shock Personal CD Player
- Extra bass system.
- Includes car adaptor kit.

Model SLS221C. Was £119.99. FREE MINI SPEAKERS Ask for details — SAVE £20 SALE PRICE £99.99

PANASONIC 'Cobra Top' Portable CD System
- 3 dimensional sound.
- Remote control.

Model RXED77. Was £199.99. — SAVE £30 SALE PRICE £169.99







BOSCH Full Size Dishwasher Model SGS4012GB. Was £409.99. In-store Price £329.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† VOUCHER PRICE £319.99

CANDY 1000 Spin Autowasher Model C1041. Was £359.99. Was £279.99. Was £269.99. SALE PRICE £249.99

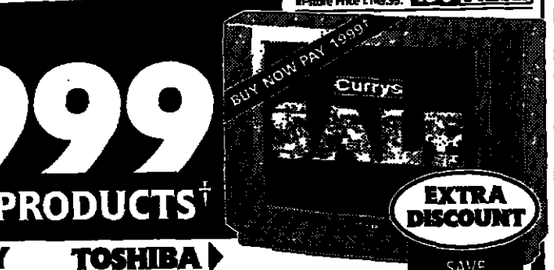
CANDY 9.7 cu.ft. Fridge Freezer Model CM28/05. Was £369.99. Was £279.99. In-store Price £269.99 BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† VOUCHER PRICE £239.99

TOSHIBA 28" Dolby Pro-Logic Surround Sound TV with Fastext 66cm visible screen size. Model 2877B. Was £799.99. In-store Price £749.99. VOUCHER PRICE £729.99 — SAVE A TOTAL OF £70




PANASONIC 4-Head NICAM Stereo Video Model NVHD620. Was £349.99. In-store Price £329.99. BUY NOW PAY 9 MONTHS LATER† VOUCHER PRICE £299.99

JVC Digital Camcorder with 100x Super Digital Zoom Model DVJ70. Was £1199.99. SUPERSTORES ONLY SALE PRICE £999.99
















STOVES 50cm Slot-in Gas Cooker. Finished in Brass and Racing Green Model NEWHOME 502GS. Was £549.99. In-store Price £429.99. BUY NOW PAY 6 MONTHS LATER† VOUCHER PRICE £399.99

ELECTROLUX 'Power System' Upright Cleaner Model POWER SYSTEM 1710. Was £229.99. Was £149.99. SALE PRICE £129.99 — SAVE £100

SANYO 0.6 cu.ft. Microwave Model EMS002. Was £89.99. SALE PRICE £79.99

AIWA CD Mini Hi-Fi Model NSXF9. Was £449.99. Was £399.99. In-store Price £379.99. VOUCHER PRICE £329.99




## Only Currys bring you all this...

LOWEST PRICES ON THE SPOT

Many of our current prices are Currys lowest ever. Find a lower price for the same product and offer, complete, new, boxed and in stock in a local shop within 7 days of purchase and we'll match it.

WE'LL NEVER BE BEATEN

MASTERCARE always there... Coverplan

†BUY NOW PAY 1999 WITH ALL PRODUCTS OVER £200 WHEN PURCHASED WITH A MASTERCARE COVERPLAN AGREEMENT.

Coverplan offers complete peace of mind, providing up to 5 years expert service support should your product ever need repairing. Ask in-store for details.

NEW EXCLUSIVES

DELIVERY & INSTALLATION 7 DAYS A WEEK On over 800 home appliances when you purchase before 4pm. 48 hour delivery available in parts of Scotland and Northern Ireland. You can even choose morning or afternoon delivery or take it home now. Ask in-store for full details.

EXCLUSIVE MODELS & OFFERS ^For exceptional value, exclusive to DSG Retail Ltd.

INSTANT CREDIT With Currys Premier Advantage Account you can take advantage of any credit offer in-store. Ask for details.

INDEPENDENT REVIEWS

AWARD WINNING IN-STORE REPAIR SHOP Repairs 7 days a week (same day wherever possible).

PC RAM UPGRADES Available in-store.

DIGITAL COMPATIBLE All TVs Currys sell are compatible with future digital technology. Subject to the purchase of an additional digital decoder planned for launch during 1998.

COMBINED DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION On all free-standing gas and electric cookers by CORGI registered engineers (excludes Northern Ireland and selected Scottish stores).

GAS ELECTRIC

24 HOUR IN HOME DIRECT MOPS

PC HELPLINE 7 DAYS A WEEK 0839 517517 Calls cost: 50p per minute.

SAME DAY SERVICING For most large items if you phone before 10am Monday to Friday and live within 10 miles of a Currys store.

CURRYS DIRECT For direct, doorstep delivery, Freephone 0500 304304 or fax 01442 888145 (9am-8pm Mon-Fri, 9am-5.30pm Sat, 10am-5pm Sun). Delivery charges from £3.25. Part of DSG Retail Ltd.

# Currys

## BRITAIN'S BIGGEST ELECTRICAL STORES

All Superstores offer easy parking, late night shopping and Sunday opening. Ring 0990 500049 for details of your nearest store.

Written quotations from Currys, Dept MK, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7TG. Currys are licensed credit brokers. Ask in-store for details.

†BUY NOW PAY UP TO 12 MONTHS LATER

Pay 20% deposit and nothing for the deferred period indicated with the product (ie nothing until 1999 if the product is over £200 and bought with Mastercare Coverplan). You can then repay the loan in full, interest free, or by monthly instalments when interest will be charged at an APR of 29.5% from the date of the agreement. Example based on 12 Months Buy Now Pay Later, Cash Price £399.99, 20% deposit £80. Either pay the loan amount of £319.99 within 12 months or 36 monthly payments by direct debit of £18.24. Total amount payable £812.64. Subject to status when you open a Currys Premier Advantage Account. Written quotations available on request from: Dept MO/BRPL, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 7TG. (Applicants must be 18 or over, 21 in N. Ireland.) APR 29.5%

WATCH OUT FOR OUR VOUCHER SPECIALS!

Look out for the special voucher savings on selected products throughout this advertisement. Simply take this advert to any Currys store to claim your discount. One voucher saving per purchase. Some voucher offers are an alternative to existing trade-in offers. Not for use with other offers. Branch use only. Discount using Code 4 (Head Office offer). HURRY! These voucher prices valid only until Wednesday, 21st January 1998.


هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



# 'Rape' schoolgirl tells court she was assaulted aged six

**Pupil, 10, sobs on video link as she is questioned by defence barrister for accused young boys, writes Adrian Lee**

A PRIMARY school pupil who alleges she was raped by two ten-year-old classmates suffered repeated sexual abuse as a younger child, she told the Old Bailey yesterday.

The girl, who is now 10, described how she was raped and sexually assaulted by a man and his friends when she lived in Jamaica. At the time, she was six years old.

Under cross-examination yesterday the girl, who alleges that she was raped and indecently assaulted by five boys in the lavatories of her west London school, often broke down. The video link, through which is she giving evidence, was switched off on each occasion to allow her to compose herself. At one stage a court usher attempted to comfort her as she sat bent overand sobbing but the girl said: "Leave me alone."

The trial judge, Mrs Justice Bracewell, rejected defence submissions that the cameras should be left running so the jury could see the girl's demeanour, as they would had she given evidence in open court. The girl denied that she made up stories or that she wanted to be the girlfriend of the boys, who are alleged to have dragged her into a lavatory as she tried to retrieve her coat, stripped her, held her down and molested her.

Two boys deny rape and indecent assault. Two more aged 10 and 11, one her cousin, deny indecent assault. Giving evidence yesterday, the girl frequently became agitated as she was made to go over and over her account.

Once, she pulled the microphone from her black tracksuit top and refused to continue. She constantly kneaded a set of coloured "worry balls" in her hands and the judge halted proceedings an hour early when the girl said she had had enough questions.

She told the court that she had lived in Jamaica with her aunt and grandmother until she was aged seven. She said a man called Frankie, who was 34, hurt her and seemed "a bit mad". "He sometimes took the girls to his home," she said. "He liked to get his friends and hurt us. He beat us."

The girl said the man and three of his friends touched her private parts. Twice she was raped but she did not tell anyone, although it made her unhappy and she was pleased to come to England. Asked about the incident at her school, in May last year, by Steven Kay, QC, for one of the defendants, the girl denied that she ever played in the boys' toilet. "Did you go into the toilet and ask them to be your boyfriends?" asked Mr Kay. She replied: "That is such a lie. I did not ask to be their girlfriend. All I asked for was for my coat back."

Mr Kay said: "They were in the boys' toilet, you wanted them to touch you, didn't you?" "No, no that's a lie," said the girl. "I wasn't playing with them. They forced me to do this. They was going to beat me up."

The girl admitted that she had been excluded from school. She said: "I got in trouble for fighting. Everybody does. I am like all kids, I'm not saying I'm perfect." She also admitted starting four fires at her home. She told the court that she heard the voices of spirits telling her what to do. The trial continues.

JULIA QUENZLER



Mrs Justice Bracewell and the court heard evidence from the young girl on monitors via a video link

# Teenager guilty of sex attack collapses

BY A CORRESPONDENT

A BOY of 14 who attempted to rape a friend during a group sex attack last May collapsed in court yesterday as a judge prepared to sentence him. The teenager, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was carried from the dock at Coventry Crown Court.

The boy was also convicted of indecently assaulting the 12-year-old girl after a two-week trial at Wolverhampton Crown Court last year. He was one of three boys who indecently assaulted the girl on a disused railway line near her home in Wolverhampton.

A 15-year-old was sentenced to six months youth custody, and another boy, aged 14, who pleaded guilty to the same offence, was given a 12-month supervision order after Judge Christopher Hodson gave him credit for his guilty plea.

He adjourned sentencing of the teenager convicted of the more serious charge of attempted rape until February 13 for psychiatric reports to be prepared. The boy was granted conditional bail.

# Porn video led to mother's murder

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

A PRIVATE investigator raped and strangled a divorced mother after watching a pornographic video featuring scenes of extreme sadomasochism and bondage.

Stuart Hulse, 37, of Lowton, near Wigan, watched the tape at a party that left him frustrated and in a state of sexual arousal when the other guests paired off for sex.

Hulse, who specialises in surveillance work, left the party and later found Shirley Brown, 46, a student, who lived alone. He bound and gagged her, raped her and strangled her with her tights in a macabre re-enactment of the video footage.

He pleaded guilty yesterday at Manchester Crown Court to murdering Mrs Brown, who has an eleven-year-old son, in June 1996. He is expected to be sentenced to life imprisonment on Wednesday. The start of the case was delayed when Hulse, in consultation with his lawyers, changed his plea to guilty at the last moment.

The prosecution, led by Anthony Gee, QC, was expected to allege that, when Hulse could not find a sexual partner, he left in a taxi. Shortly afterwards he discovered his victim, described as a thoroughly respectable woman.

Hulse gagged her and tied her hands and feet before sexually attacking and killing her. Neighbours heard screams from her house, but went back to sleep when they telephoned her, only to get the answering machine.

Her son, Richard, was spending the weekend with his father. Her parents became alarmed the next day when they could not contact her. Police discovered her body upstairs, wrapped in a duvet.


Paying over £300 for your motor insurance?

Now there's a simple, direct way to save pounds.

It's faster,

Our state of the art technology delivers your quote within minutes.

cheaper,

You could save £150 or more.

easier,

No middlemen, no fuss, no form filling. For high quality instant cover with a whole host of benefits nothing could be simpler.

LINES OPEN 8AM-9PM WEEKDAYS. 9AM-5PM SATURDAYS.

to phone Privilege on

0990 133 266

It's time you had the Privilege.

privilege INSURANCE

Backed by the Royal Bank of Scotland plc.



Find out why these figures simply don't add up.

up to 40% on your

20% less

UP TO 66% CHEAPER

up to 63% cheaper

Every day, more and more telecom companies tell your business about a bewildering array of fantastic savings on calls compared to BT.

However, these savings are often not what they seem. They are nearly always compared against BT's basic rates without taking into account our discounts and usually only apply to selected call routes. So you may find that any savings will only be on a small proportion of your total bill.

But with BT's customised savings packages, your business can save on calls to any destination (local, national and international) any time of the day.

So when you look at your whole call bill and compare like with like, BT is much more competitive than some would have you believe.

To find out about the real cost of calling, and for a free brochure comparing BT's price packages with Cable & Wireless, Free*fone 0800* 800 800 or visit us at www.business.bt.com/realcost

BT

THE SUNDAY TIMES

CONDUCT UNBECOMING



When Kelly Flinn became America's first female bomber pilot she found herself on a bleak B-52 base where "everybody was sleeping with everybody" and she had little choice but to join in. It destroyed her career, but only after a bitter public battle with the air force that split America

*She tells her story tomorrow in News Review*

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

# Spencer loses fight to challenge privacy law

## Strasbourg ruling is a victory for the Government and for press freedom, writes **Charles Bremner**

EARL SPENCER suffered a setback in his campaign for a tougher privacy law yesterday when the European Commission of Human Rights rejected his attempt to take the British Government to court over press reports on his marriage and the illness of Countess Spencer, his former wife.

The Strasbourg panel ruled that the couple had insufficient grounds for starting a case in the court over the Government's alleged failure to protect them under the European Convention on Human Rights.

After a brief hearing, the 19-member Commission implicitly accepted the Government's argument that British law provided adequate remedies to protect privacy and that the Spencers had not exhausted their right to fight a case for breach of confidence in the British courts.

At his home in Cape Town, Earl Spencer was last night said to be disappointed at the Commission's ruling. He is now working with his lawyers to see if there are any further legal avenues he can pursue. A spokesman for the earl said: "Earlier this week he decided that whatever the outcome he would say nothing and simply let events in Strasbourg speak for themselves".

It is understood that he and Lady Spencer have spoken by telephone about yesterday's hearing, but both agreed to make no public comment.

A Strasbourg case would have had a new dimension because the Government is incorporating the European Convention into British law under the Human Rights Bill. The rejection of the Spencer case means that Britain's laws on privacy and press freedom will not be tested by the Strasbourg court.

The couple applied to the Commission, which vets cases for possible treatment by the court, after the *News of the World* published a front-page story in 1995 under the headline: "Di's sister-in-law in booze and bulimia clinic". A photograph showed the former model walking in the grounds of a clinic where she was being treated for eating disorders and alcoholism.

In a series of reports at the time, tabloid newspapers reported on the couple's marital problems. The earl accused tabloid newspapers of "hypocritical and evil" conduct and complained to the Press Complaints Commission, which later condemned the newspapers for their intrusive reporting.

Lawyers for the couple, who divorced in a high-publicity case in South Africa last month, argued in the closed Strasbourg hearing yesterday that Britain had "failed to provide a means whereby they could have prevented such publication of personal information or obtained compensation after publication." But the panel, which rejects the majority of applications from citizens in the convention's 40 signatory states, declared the application "inadmissible". Officials said this implied acceptance of the Government's argument that the press code of conduct, monitored by the Press Complaints Commission, offered adequate safeguards under the terms of Article 8 of the Convention. The Article states: "Everybody has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence."

The Human Rights Bill, now going through Parliament, will give individuals a right to petition British courts directly for the first time under the terms of the Convention, including Article 8. Among the 40 signatories, only Britain and Ireland have until now had no such mechanism. The Government denies that the Human Rights Bill will create a gagging law for the media because of balancing requirements, notably under Article 10 of the Convention, which guarantees freedom of expression.



Earl and Countess Spencer before the divorce, with their baby son, Louis

# Earl who seeks publicity, but hates intrusion

BY EMMA WILKINS

EARL SPENCER'S relationship with the press has been fraught ever since he was dubbed "Champagne Charlie" by the tabloids after the marriage of his sister to the Prince of Wales.

In seeking press attention when it suits him, but protesting about intrusion when it does not, some newspaper executives believe Lord Spencer has forfeited his right to privacy.

One of his most spectacular brushes with the press came in May 1995, when he planted a false story in the *News of the World*, to catch a mole in his circle of friends, and then gleefully rang its editor to tell him he had been duped.

The Press Complaints Commission "paused for thought" when considering his subsequent complaint against the *News of the World* over an invasion of Countess Spencer's privacy during her treatment at a drugs clinic. It did, however, go on to uphold his complaint.

The earl, who has described the activities of the tabloids as a "cancer" while pursuing a career as a journalist, has won significant sums in numerous libel actions against newspapers. In July 1997, he won libel damages from *The Guardian* and *Evening Standard* over allegations about his attempts to curb the behaviour of a South African photographer. In March 1996, he accepted substantial damages over false claims in the *Daily Express* linking him with money stolen by his friend Darius Guppy.

In October 1996, Lord Spencer told the *Spectator* about the need for a privacy law and said that the Press Complaints Commission was ineffective. He did not have any qualms, however, about taking up his pen for *Harpers and Queen* just two months later, to tell the world about his fears for his safety in an increasingly violent South Africa.

When he decided to sell some manorial titles in an effort to escape inheritance tax, he publicised the event by giving an exclusive and detailed interview to *The Sunday Telegraph* in June, 1996.

His comment after the death of his sister that members of the media had "blood on their hands" came as no surprise to those who are familiar with his views. It is certain that he will pursue this latest action as far as he can.






هكذا من الأصل



'You, Mr Brown, are lacking the feature that distinguishes man from beast: namely humanity'

# Judge condemns rapist who put victims in dock

By Adam Fresco

THE TRIAL

A RAPIST who humiliated his two victims in court by exercising his legal right to cross-examine them was jailed yesterday for a total of 21 years.

Milton Brown, 44, who has 58 convictions over 29 years, can be named for the first time today. He caused outrage when he forced a widow and a mature student to relive their ordeals in the witness box last November, prompting the Government to promise a change in the law.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, said that he was disgusted at the suffering of the two women and added: "I am determined that we will stop putting victims through this traumatising experience." A working party is looking at ways to protect witnesses and a report is expected soon.

Brown had already been sentenced to 16 years in prison for the double rape of the widow at knifepoint, and for the indecent assault on the neuro-scientist, who was celebrating receiving a masters degree in biochemistry.

At Knightsbridge Crown Court yesterday, he was sentenced to a further five years for causing his former girlfriend, Susan McDonald, 29, grievous bodily harm. He repeatedly beat her, causing broken ribs and a fractured arm. He also stabbed her arm, and refused to allow her to seek treatment.

Since the rape trial last year, a court order has prevented Brown from being named to avoid this week's trial from being prejudiced.

Sentencing him, Judge Leo Charles, QC, said: "I cannot understand how you could inflict such misery on these women. Maybe it is because you, Mr Brown, are lacking the feature that distinguishes man from beast: namely humanity."

Brown, a former car mechanic, selected his victims for their vulnerability, then befriended them. Throughout the four-day hearing, during which Miss McDonald recounted in tears how Brown had changed her life with his violence, he had sat impassively in the dock.

But his outward calm crumbled when the judge told him precisely what he thought of him. "You pleaded not guilty to these offences and your defence to them was that Miss McDonald was not worthy of belief, she is unreliable and she takes drugs," he said. "The jury has decided otherwise." Noting the slight sneer on Brown's face, the judge continued: "I can how deeply affected you are. You are totally impervious. What you did to her was . . ."

But the judge got no further as Brown launched into a tirade of allegations against the judicial system. After making his allegations against the jury foreman and the case officer, Detective Constable John McDonald, he rounded on the judge, saying: "You are cold, you have no heart."

Insisting he was innocent, he then maintained: "This can't be justice. I never had any justice in this court, from you or anybody else. I never had any rights at all. You have abused the law."

Judge Charles, who observed that his outbursts clearly demonstrated his love of intimidating others, finally shouted: "Keep quiet" and then ordered dock officers to control Brown.

The six-man, six-woman jury was told that Brown first turned to crime while at school. Most of his convictions were for dishonesty, some for violence, with half a dozen involving sexual offences.

Some of the jurors sat shaking their heads in apparent disbelief as Philip Bennetts, for the prosecution, said that Brown's offences included twice having unlawful intercourse with a 12-year-old girl, beating up a woman who was nine months pregnant, leaving her bruised from head to toe, and convictions last November for sexual assaults.

"The public is in need of protection from you because you showed just how dangerous you are and just how much serious harm you cause to other people when you are at large," the judge said.

Brown screamed: "This is a kangeroo court. You are a kangaroo judge — the jury was fixed from the start." As he was led to the cells, he yelled: "God bless you all."



The jury was told that Milton Brown had 58 convictions going back 29 years

## Lost and alone, she was an ideal target

THE WIDOW

AFTER a series of personal tragedies, the 38-year-old widow had come to London from Norfolk to start a new life. She was befriended by Brown as she arrived at King's Cross station.

Tired and desperate and with nowhere to stay, she was taken in by Brown. She was the exact type of prey that he sought, said Peter Finnegan for the prosecution.

Brown took her to his flat and locked the door. The mother-of-two said: "He pulled out a kitchen knife with a 6in blade and pushed it against my throat. It was sharp. It would have been silly to argue."

She was forced by Brown to go through the harrowing evidence twice from the witness box when the first trial was halted after he sacked his legal team. During the second trial he cross-examined the woman himself, forcing her to relive details of the 15-hour attack in June 1996. She spent a total of five hours in the witness box.

## Lover was beaten and kept locked up

THE GIRLFRIEND

SUSAN McDONALD began a relationship with Brown in May 1996, and things went well until Brown accused her of having affairs.

He then began beating her, using any weapon that came to hand. He kept her a prisoner, putting padlocks on the doors and bars on the windows. During the trial Miss McDonald described him "freaking out", punching and kicking her and hitting her over the head. In one attack he stabbed her in her left forearm with a rusty hoofpick. The inch-deep wound festered but he would not allow her out for treatment. He caused multiple fractures to her ribs on both sides of her chest, and fractured the main bone in her left forearm. Once he beat her with a pool cue so hard that it snapped. He then used a plank of wood, later throttling her until she passed out. The beatings resumed when she regained consciousness.

## Ordeal left woman unable to sleep

THE STUDENT

THE mature student was attacked after celebrating receiving a masters degree in September 1996. She had been to a London pub and was spotted by Brown as he took Miss McDonald for a walk.

He appeared to be a perfect gentleman, offering to walk the 31-year-old neuroscientist through a park, but when they reached a secluded corner he threatened her and sexually assaulted her for two hours. He then forced her to come back to his flat. Once inside he held a knife to her throat and again sexually assaulted her. He only stopped when he fell asleep, using her body as a foot stool. The next morning he pretended nothing had happened, gave her the bus fare home and asked for a date.

When he cross-examined the woman, she told the jury that she was feeling unwell. She turned to Brown and said: "It's your fault I am ill. I do not sleep because of this nightmare."

# Attacker brought a citizen's right into disrepute

THE LAW

FOR centuries it has been an English citizen's right to conduct his or her own defence. But it is one that is being increasingly questioned after rape victims and others have suffered harrowing ordeals when cross-examined by their attackers.

In 1996 Ralston Edwards spent six days forcing his victim, Julia Mason — who waived her right to anonymity — repeatedly to relive her rape ordeal from the witness box. He even wore the same clothes as he had done on the night of the attack.

Last year Floyd Bailey left his victim in tears after making her describe his genitals in graphic detail. The woman said later that her courtroom ordeal was like being "violated for a second time".

Milton Brown — like Edwards and Bailey — appeared to relish exercising his rights and cross-examining the two women. One he had raped repeatedly at knifepoint; the other he sexually abused for hours, leaving her bruised from head to toe.

Brown sacked three defence teams as he tried to delay the trial. After firing the final set of lawyers he decided to defend himself, without the help of a "Mackenzie Friend" — someone, not necessarily a qualified lawyer, who could help him to present his case. "The Holy Ghost is my counsellor," he insisted.

Since the Edwards case there have been repeated calls to extend the 1991 Criminal Justice Act restriction that withdrew the right of suspects to cross-examine alleged child victims.

Julia Mason called on politicians to change the law, but the general election put the matter on hold. After his victory Tony Blair promised action, telling the Commons in June he had been "disgusted" by Ms Mason's courtroom ordeal. A provisional report by the Home Office's Vulnerable and Intimidated Witnesses Working Group was presented to Ministers two weeks ago.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, has said that there has to be an end to such "traumatising" courtroom experiences.

## Loan firm broke new law

A BLIND woman who was discriminated against when she applied for a loan has won £500 compensation.

Sandra Heaton, from Darwen, Lancashire, applied for £10,000 from Lloyds Bowmaker but was told that as a blind person she would have to hire a solicitor to witness her signature and explain the form to her.

The Royal National Institute for the Blind told her the request was illegal under the new Disability Discrimination Act and, after being threatened with court action, the company paid Mrs Heaton, 41, the compensation. "I felt degraded and annoyed," she said. "It looked like they did not trust my husband, who is partially sighted, to read the form to me and they thought I was incapable of understanding it."

Mrs Heaton and her husband, Barrie, 42, had made the application last April after receiving a mailshot. But soon afterwards Mrs Heaton was told that because she and her husband were both visually impaired they needed to take the form to a solicitor to have it "explained" and to have her signature witnessed.

"I can see what they were getting at," she said, "if I took the loan out and said a few months later, 'Oh, I did not see that in the small print' — but that can happen to anyone whether sighted or not. They were asking me to pay extra for a solicitor that no one else had to."

NEWS IN BRIEF

## Top-secret encoder is stolen

A computer code encrypter for sending secret messages to the Prime Minister and the security services has been stolen from Whitehall.

The machine was taken from the Cabinet Office, next to 10 Downing Street, despite the tight security in the area. Officers from Charing Cross police station are investigating.

The machine is thought to be used to scramble and unscramble phone calls from the Prime Minister, MI5, MI6 and friendly powers. It is also used to communicate in safety with Cabinet ministers when they are abroad.

### Wife is aviator

Commander Martin Harriman, captain of *HMS Sutherland* and under investigation for alleged sexual misbehaviour, is married to the Royal Navy's only female aviator. His wife, Claire, serves at HMS Osprey in Portland.

### Race abuse claim

Judgment has been reserved at the High Court over whether a black former Royal Marine, who deserted after alleged racial abuse, can sue the Ministry of Defence. Mark Parchment, 29, is claiming £750,000 for mental injury.

### Carling victory

MGN, publisher of the *Sunday Mirror*, apologised at Nottingham Crown Court to Will Carling, the former England Rugby Union captain, and agreed to pay him damages for falsely accusing him of stalking a teenage girl.

### Police dog killed

Jasper, a German shepherd police dog, was run over and killed chasing two suspected burglars on the A11. The men, who had been pursued from Halstead, Essex, had left their car near Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire. They escaped.

### Image problem

Charlton Football Club in London has been ordered to pay £12,270 to the sacked manager of its souvenir shop. Chris Tugwell, 38, from Welling, South London, said his 18-stone figure did not fit the club's slick new image.

Advertisement

## Thinking of buying a computer?

Computers are playing an increasingly important part in our lives. But how much should you pay for a system? And how do you know a PC will suit your needs?
Help is at hand! Practical, straightforward and reliable, *The Which? Guide to Computers* explains all the jargon. It's ideal for home users and small businesses alike and takes you, step by step, through the buying process. Using real-life situations to highlight common problems, it tells you • what computers can do for you and/or your business • how to avoid costly mistakes, and select sensibly-priced hardware and software that won't be instantly obsolete • how to calculate the true cost of a system • how to get cost-effective user support and maintenance • why 'latest' doesn't always mean 'best' • how to ensure you buy what you need – and not what the salespeople want to sell you • and much more besides!
This fact-packed book from *Which?* gives independent, unbiased advice and is essential reading for anyone planning to buy a computer, or who wants to get the most from their existing system.
*The Which? Guide to Computers* costs just £10.99 (P&P FREE), so why not order your copy NOW using the order form below? Full refund if not satisfied.

## What can the Internet do for you?

'Email', 'websites', 'URLs'... do you like the idea of the Internet but find all the jargon that goes with it baffling? And do you know just how useful the Internet could be for you? At the touch of a button you could have access to news and weather reports, stock market quotations, shopping and banking services, travel and sport.
Published by Which?, *The Which? Guide to the Internet* cuts through the terminology by providing a glossary of terms and giving clear, non-technical advice on how to make the Internet work for you. Using real-life case histories this invaluable book will help explore all the possibilities – for business and for pleasure. It looks at • cost-effective access • getting connected • using the Internet to save money on international phone calls • keeping in touch with colleagues and relatives around the world • how to promote your business to an audience of millions • where to find free software and advice.
PLUS order now and receive your FREE CD Rom giving you 30 days unlimited access to the Internet and Which? Online. Which? Online contains a wealth of exclusive consumer information from Which?. It also gives you access to member and Which? expert discussion groups, an email address and free webspace.
*The Which? Guide to the Internet* costs just £9.99 (P&P FREE). However, should you subscribe to Which? Online after your free trial we'll take the price of the book off your first payment. So why not order your copy NOW using the order form below? Full refund if not satisfied.

## Essential reading for landlords and tenants

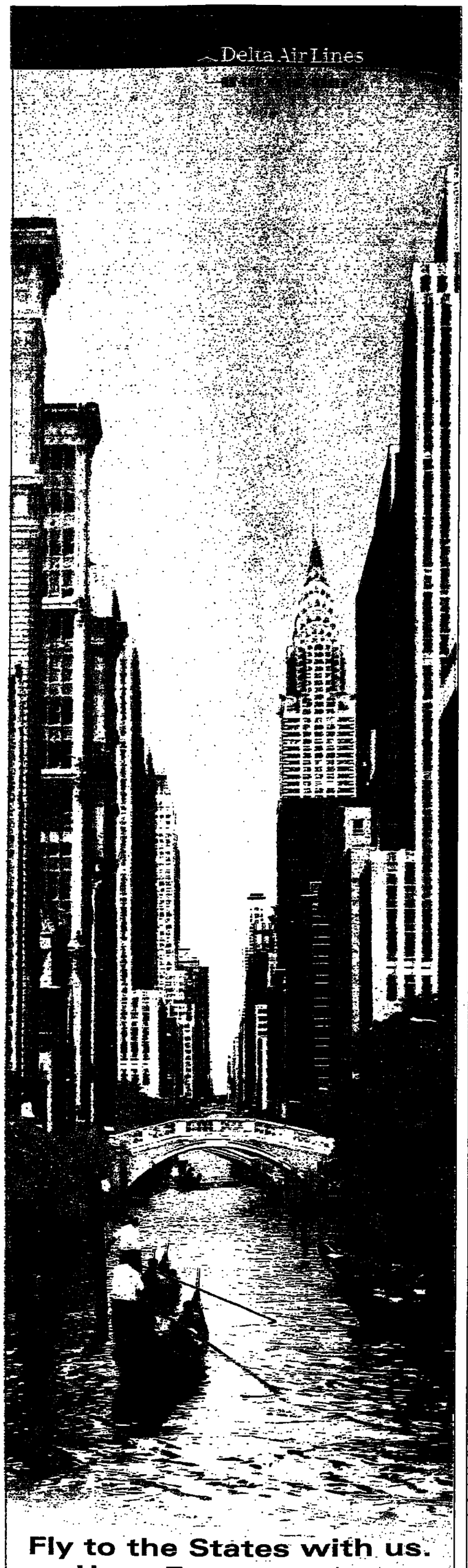
Thinking of letting your property? Unsure of your rights as a tenant? Then get help with *The Which? Guide to Renting and Letting*.
Whether you are renting or letting a house, flat or room, you need to be aware of your legal rights, the financial implications of the agreement and the practicalities of the landlord/tenant relationship. And this concise, accessible book could help you avoid possible pitfalls, as well as save you time, money and potentially costly legal action, too.
For landlords there's advice on • what sort of tenancy to grant • rents and deposits • grounds for possession during a tenancy and how to obtain a court order. Tenants will discover • who pays the council tax, utility charges and repair bills • whether they can sublet • what to do about harassment or threats of eviction • and much, much more!
Complete with sample letting agreements, *The Which? Guide to Renting and Letting* costs just £10.99 (P&P FREE), so why not order your copy NOW using the order form on the right? Full refund if not satisfied.

To: Which?, PO Box 89, Dept SP221, Hertford, SG14 1TB
Please send me the book(s) indicated below, on the understanding that I can return them for a full refund if I am not completely satisfied.
Write number of copies required in appropriate box(es) below
☐ The Which? Guide to Computers @ £10.99 each
☐ The Which? Guide to the Internet @ £9.99 each
☐ The Which? Guide to Renting and Letting @ £10.99 each
SP221
I enclose cheque/PO for £_____ (payable to Which? Ltd)
OR Please charge my Mastercard/Visa/Amex/Diners' Club
Card number ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ Expiry date ☐☐/☐☐
Signed _____ Date _____
Name Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs _____
Address _____
_____ Postcode _____
Orders are normally despatched within 14 days of receipt.
We occasionally make our customer list available to companies whose products or services may be of interest to you. Please cross here ☐ if you do not want your name to be passed on to other companies.

Salvatore Ferragamo

HAVE THE PLEASURE OF INFORMING YOU THAT THEIR WINTER SALE IS NOW ON

Boutique Ferragamo
24, Old Bond Street - London W1X 4JB




**Fly to the States with us. Have Europe on us.**

*When you take a round trip to the USA with Delta Air Lines, we'll award you 25,000 bonus miles on our SkyMiles® programme.*

*That's enough for a return ticket to Moscow, Istanbul, Prague, Paris, Lisbon, Venice. In fact, anywhere you choose in Europe that's serviced by our SkyMiles partner airlines – Aer Lingus, Air France, Austrian Airlines, Finnair, TAP, Sabena and Swissair.*

*Qualifying is simple. Become a SkyMiles member by calling 0800 414 767, then enter the promotion by returning the coupon.*

*For Delta flight information, and to make your reservation, call the number above or your travel agent. Then, if you fly to the USA between January 16th and March 16th, 1998, Europe's all yours.*

Please complete and post by March 15th 1998 to: Delta SkyMiles Membership, FREEPOST, PO Box 14, Ashton Gate, Romford, Great Britain, RM3 6BR.

SkyMiles Membership No.

First Name

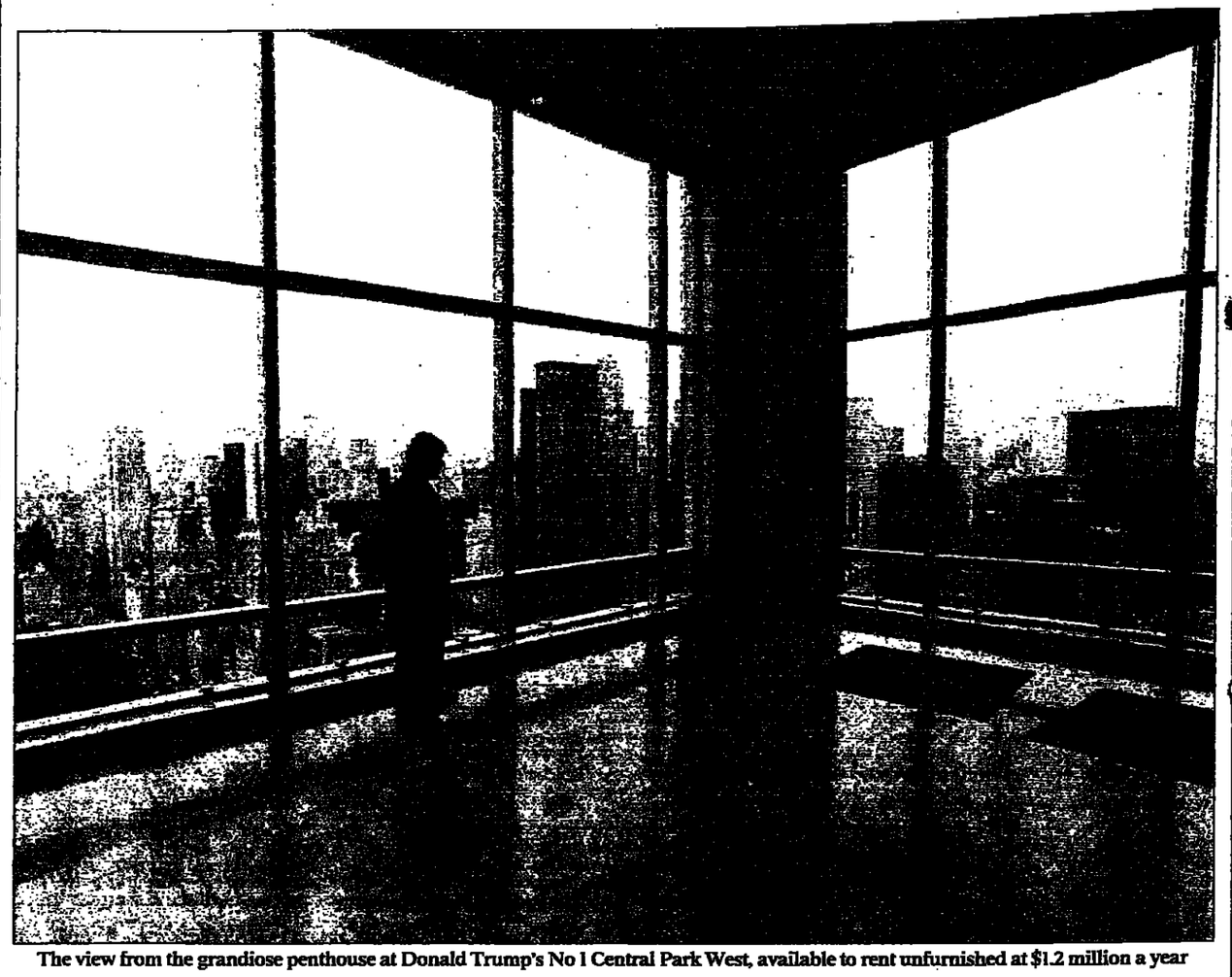
Last Name

Business Tel. No. ENG 98/TT2

Travel must be in paid First, Business or Full Economy (booked in Y) to qualify. This offer is valid one time only and is not available with any discount coupon or upgrade and cannot be combined with any other offer. This offer is available to residents of the UK only. Award tickets are subject to availability. All applicable terms and conditions of the SkyMiles programme apply. Passengers are responsible for taxes and airport fees. Bonus mileage will be credited to the members account in April '98. The promoter is Delta Air Lines Inc., 25 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LD.

© 1998 Delta Air Lines, Inc. Internet: www.delta-air.com


# Rooms at the very top



The view from the grandiose penthouse at Donald Trump's No 1 Central Park West, available to rent unfurnished at $1.2 million a year

## Rent of $100,000 a month secures Trump panorama

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A SKY-HIGH penthouse with views of every landmark in Manhattan is set to become the most expensive apartment rented in America and possibly the world.

The dazzling pad, owned by Donald Trump, is being offered unfurnished to prospective tenants for $100,000 (£61,000) a month, more than three times the annual income of the average New Yorker. And whoever moves in will have to spend at least $150,000 on top of that to decorate the place. Carpets alone would cost $30,000.

The apartment is built to bounteous proportions, measuring 6,000 sq ft from end to end — or "30,000 cu feet from top to bottom", as the agents put it. Its sitting room, covering 1,500 sq ft, is larger than most Manhattan apartments; and its kitchen, at 950 sq ft, could accommodate a family of four.

There are five bedrooms, each with "views to die for and cupboard space to live in". The eight bathrooms, the kitchen and the entrance hall are all done in marble, and the ceilings are an imposing 20ft high. The windows in each room start at floor level and stop just short of the ceiling: they open, too, and leaning out is discouraged.

Mr Trump described the penthouse — perched on the 52nd storey of Trump International Hotel and Tower, at 1 Central Park West — as "absolutely the finest apartment in New York by a long way".

> "All the features of Central Park, a Manhattan idyll, are visible below"

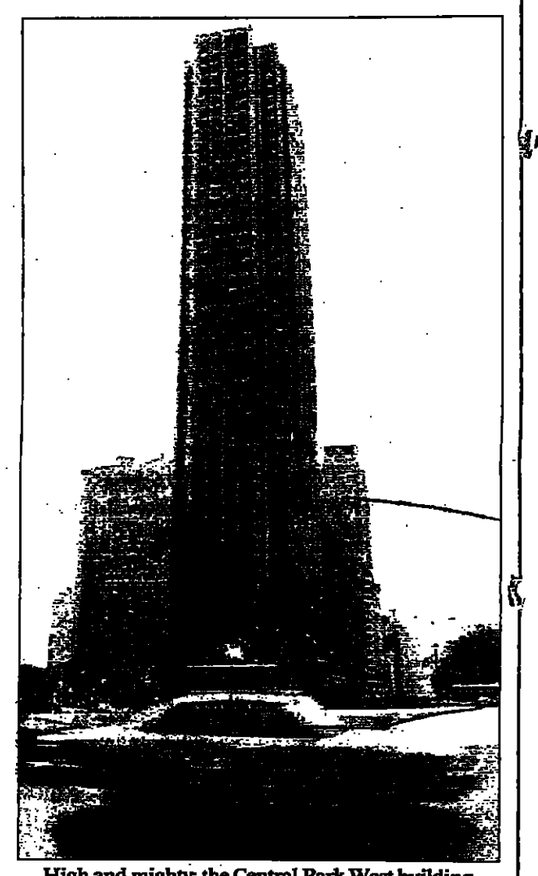
The property tycoon, who had intended to live in the penthouse with Marla Maples, his former wife, and their daughter Tiffany, described the apartment as "even nicer than the place in which I live". Mr Trump lives on the top of the Trump Tower, on swanky Fifth Avenue, but the views from his 68th-storey apartment are not a patch on the place being offered for rent.

In fact, it would appear that the views are the penthouse's most valuable feature. From the sitting room, tenants can see the Empire State and Chrysler buildings, the Hudson and the East rivers, the entire array of seigneurial structures that stretch the length of Fifth Avenue — as well as the Statue of Liberty on a clear day.

The most stunning vista of all is that of Central Park below. Every feature of this Manhattan idyll, from the fabled Wollman ice-rink to the "sheep meadow", is visible from the sitting room.

The agents for the apartment are Sotheby's International Realty, who will charge a commission of 15 per cent of a year's rent. Dolly Lenz, who is handling the rental, stands to make a handsome killing when the lease is signed.

Photographs: Justin Sutcliffe



High and mighty: the Central Park West building

## Spell of fairytale Disney city broken

Walt Disney thought he could build Utopia. But the vision is turning sour for some who bought it, **Tom Rhodes** reports from Celebration, Florida

THE face of Walt Disney smiles like Big Brother from the promotional video for home buyers at Celebration, the Florida community he always imagined as the lasting legacy of his Utopian vision for middle-class America.

"I believe we can build a community here that more people will talk about and come to look at than any other area in the world," intones Mr Disney, who died 28 years before Celebration was first established. "Where people actually live a life they cannot find anywhere else. A once in a lifetime opportunity for everyone who participates."

Less than two years after the first settlers arrived at this City on a Hill — 4,900 acres of once impenetrable cypress swamp on the farthest edge of Disney World — the imaginary ideals of its founder have been eclipsed by reality.

Celebration has indeed become a community: a messy, ever-changing and inevitably political town where some residents complain that the Disney company has failed to keep its promises and runs its settlement like a benign dictatorship.

They cite building problems and a lack of suitable shops and amenities. At the heart of their grievances, however, is the issue of Celebration's school. Most newcomers were attracted not merely by the nostalgic atmosphere of Main Street and the camaraderie, but also by the promise of a world-class education within walking distance.

The school has been the significant selling point and the reason that people have been prepared to pay a 25 to 40 per cent premium over comparable housing in this neo-traditional enclave outside Orlando. Middle-class parents have objected to the progressive curriculum, multi-age classrooms, narrative assessments and few exams. They say the school has failed to meet any of the needs of their children and many have registered their offspring at private establishments more than half an hour away, in Orlando.

Alan Summerton and his wife, Janet, originally from Blackpool, England, were among the first couples to move their son, Jonathan, to another school. They have since left Celebration for neighbouring Kissimmee. "The school was what attracted us in the first place. Florida's schools are notoriously bad, but we were told this would be a good one," said Mr Summerton, 52, a property developer who has lived in the United States for 16 years.

"It cost my son a year of his education and I think it's just a terrible shame when Disney plays with kids' lives like that."

Some teachers have departed and, although the company claims that negative publicity has galvanised the community in support of the school, it continues to shed pupils.

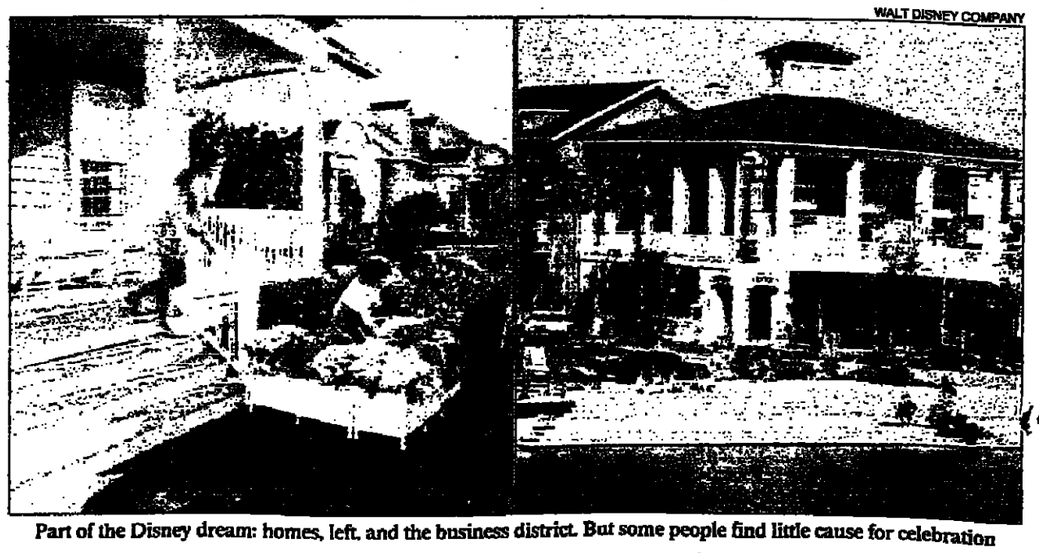



Chris Cordingley complained of poor standards there even before his parents moved from Fairfax, Virginia, last April. His mother, Rosemary, and four more parents now share the daily chore of taking their children to St John's, a private Orlando school. For Mrs Cordingley, however, the issue of education was merely the start. She claims contract builders took seven months to complete basic jobs, and says she is unable even to have her hair cut without driving for miles. Even the dry cleaner, she says, has a specific drop-off time, and she has to drive 15 minutes from home just to rent a video.

Residents eventually will elect the directors of the homeowners' association, but it will remain a company creature as long as Disney owns a single acre of land within or adjacent to Celebration.

Many, however, swear by Disney, and Celebration appears set to remain the fastest-selling development of its price range in the area. And in a sign that Disney has grown weary of its unruly community, executives are said to have abandoned plans to adopt the Celebration model elsewhere in America.

WALT DISNEY COMPANY



Part of the Disney dream: homes, left, and the business district. But some people find little cause for celebration



Middle-
hits the
of First Lady
cutting room

هكذا من الإصل



# Middle-class Jesus hits the hippy trail

The Christ portrayed in a new Italian film found inner meaning in Kashmir, **Richard Owen** writes

ITALIAN movie producers have responded to the Pope's appeal "to put more Christ in the media" with a new film that is straining the relationship between the religious and artistic worlds.

Generally, the call has brought forth a series of biblical programmes on Italian television, one of which — a film on the miracles at Fatima — the pontiff viewed this week in private. That certainly meets papal requirements to reduce the emphasis on sex and have television producers use their power to eliminate "negative and anti-social values".

But the forthcoming feature film on the life of Jesus is causing consternation in Vatican circles by claiming that he spent the "missing years" between late adolescence and the age of 30, when he began his public ministry, travelling in the Indian subcontinent.

The film, *The Gardens of Eden*, also portrays Christ as a "cultured member of the middle classes" rather than a poor carpenter, and asserts that he belonged to the austere Essene sect, based on the shores of the Dead Sea, which the film suggests provided many of the most familiar rituals of Christianity. *The Gardens of Eden*, directed by Alessandro D'Alatri, has just finished filming in Morocco, with the 20-year-old actor Kim Rossi Stuart, an Italian heart-throb, as Jesus. Stuart is the son of a British father and an Italian mother. It is not the first Italian film to anger the Vatican: Pier Paolo Pasolini's stark portrayal of Jesus in *The Gospel According to St Matthew* (1964) was perceived by some critics as quasi-homosexual. Signor D'Alatri breaks new ground by filling in "the parts the Evangelists missed out". But some of the films and documentaries turn out to deal with Christ and Christianity in unorthodox ways.



D'Alatri: child of Sixties

"The Gospels talk about the Nativity, the Presentation in the Temple and so on, but skate over the rest of Jesus's youth," Signor D'Alatri said. "They only take up the story again when he is fully adult and taking a public role. I asked myself what happened in the years in between."

His answer — based on academic research and non-canonical works such as the Apocryphal Gospels — is that Jesus was not in Galilee but "travelled the world, and thus gained the experience which underpins and explains his parables".

Signor D'Alatri's Jesus spends his adolescence in Nazareth, but leaves at the age of "18 or 20", after the death of Joseph, his earthly father. Signor D'Alatri has based part of his ideas on the work of Father Giovanni Magnani, of the Gregorian University in Rome, who argues that both Joseph and Jesus were "more architects and builders than mere woodworkers".

Joseph's death, Signor D'Alatri suggests, marked the start of Jesus's wanderings. "There are traces of his passage through Pakistan and Kashmir, where he is known as Issa, the prophet Muslims identify with the Jesus of the Bible." Jesus, he says, "drew on the Jewish tradition of oral storytelling. I think he used Aramaic as an everyday language, but studied Hebrew, and used Greek when he wanted to. My Jesus could both read and write."

> "If I made mistakes, I hope that people will say so"

The theory that Jesus was associated with the Essenes accords with a growing body of scholarly evidence. Their existence became known in 1947, when a Bedu shepherd discovered the Dead Sea Scrolls stored in terracotta jars in caves at Qumran.

The scrolls have been much argued over, but the consensus is they reveal that between 150 BC and AD 70 a Hebrew sect — ruled by a "Teacher of Righteousness" — retired from the "corruption" and Hellenism of Jerusalem to the "purity of the desert" to copy and compose sacred texts.

Scholars differ over whether the Essenes were purely Jewish or proto-Christian. Signor D'Alatri, who says he "read voraciously" in sources from the Talmud to Josephus to assemble his picture of Christ, has no doubt that the Essenes gave Jesus many of his key ideas.

"They took meals together, and the meals were considered a substitution for sacrifices at the Temple. They had common study and prayer areas, they had ascetic values and vows of poverty. They saw the world as a struggle between the Sons of Darkness and the Sons of Light, phrases used by Jesus and St Paul."

Signor D'Alatri admits he is a "child of the Sixties", and turned to the Bible because of "the current spiritual thirst". Many people find solace in Buddhism and New Age sects, "but Oriental religions do not belong to us culturally. I have filmed a Christian story in an Islamic country with the help of a Jewish writer" — Miro Silvera, who shares the screen credits. "The young Jesus is played by a Jewish boy I found in the synagogue in Casablanca, while Joseph is a local Moroccan Muslim."

Signor D'Alatri is unrepentant: "I want to arouse curiosity about all the incongruities and omissions in the New Testament. I want people to think about how Christianity destroyed paganism, yet we have created new idolatries."

His film, he says, offers "hypotheses, not certainties ... I am a film-maker, not a theologian. If I have made mistakes, I hope people will say so."

NICO MARZIALI



Jesus tempted in the desert in *The Gardens of Eden*, which claims he spent his "missing years" in the East



John Travolta and Emma Thompson, who portray President and Hillary Clinton in *Primary Colors*

# Affair of First Lady left in cutting room

BY TOM RHODES

HILLARY CLINTON is so admired by Hollywood that studio executives have decided to cut a scene from a new film that involves an interracial, extramarital affair of a character based on the First Lady.

The day before Paula Jones has a face-to-face encounter in Washington with President Clinton, whom she has charged with sexual harassment, it emerged that the censor's scissors had altered the final version of *Primary Colors*, a new film of the best-selling *roman à clef* of the Clintons' 1992 presidential campaign.

The celluloid version, which is due to bereleased in March and is already being heavily promoted by Universal Studios, will no longer include a sexual encounter between Emma Thompson and Adrian Lester, the British actors cast respectively as Susan Stanton, the wife of a southern Governor, and Henry Burton, a black communications strategist.

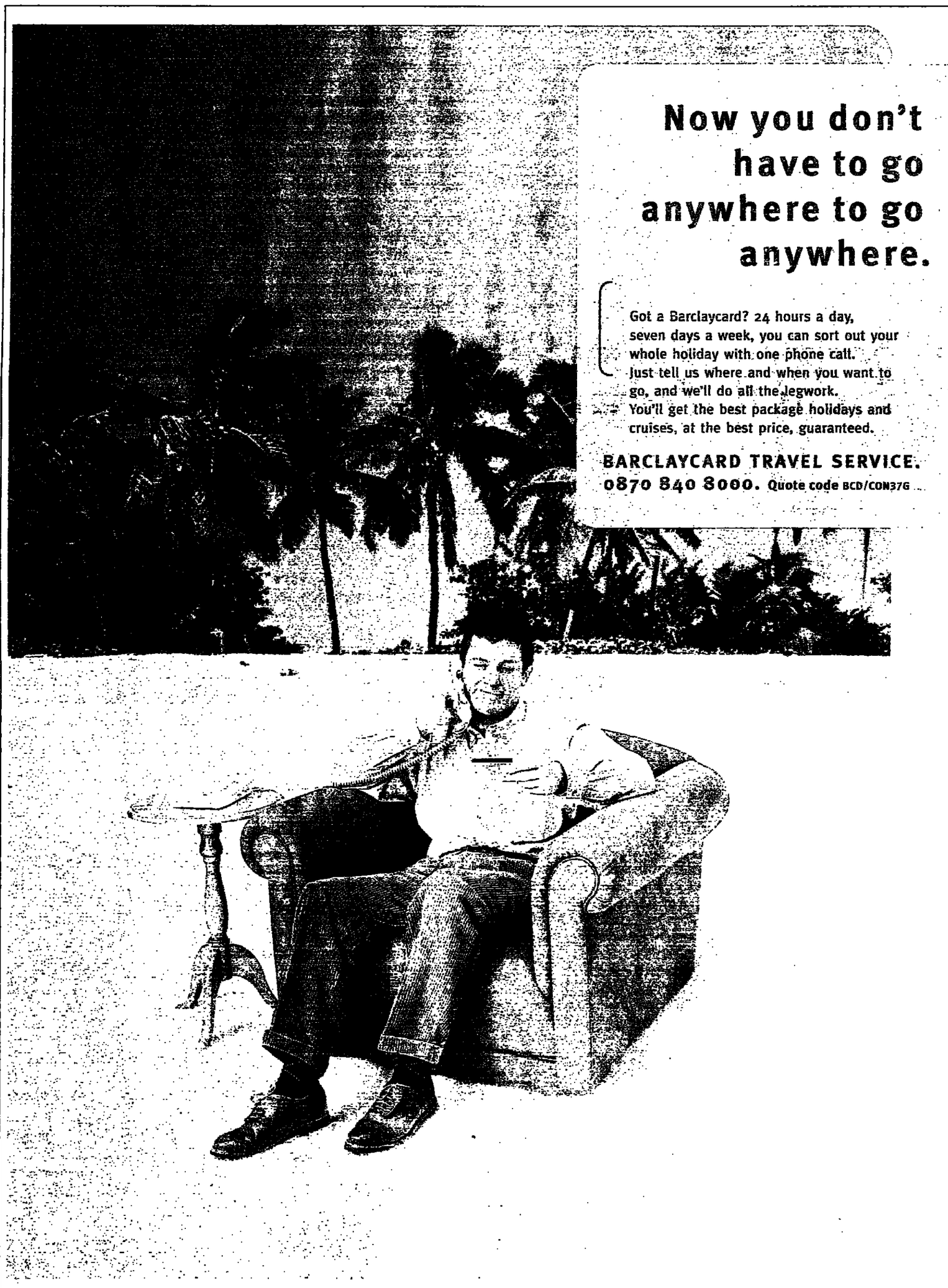
With Mrs Clinton's popularity fast increasing throughout the United States — she and her husband recently topped the rankings in a Gallup Poll annual survey of "the most admired people living in the world today" — the studio has decided to leave the scene on the cutting room floor. Mike Nichols, the director who also made *The Graduate*, had carefully blended the event into his depiction of the novel by Joe Klein, *The New Yorker* writer who was unmasked last year as the "anonymous" author of *Primary Colors*.

But the director was overruled by the studio, which is spending $65 million (£40 million) on the film, starring John Travolta as Jack Stanton, the pudgy, randy Governor based on Mr Clinton.

Mr Nichols wanted to move his project away from the book's specific identification with the Clintons, but Universal insisted that it should include the most obvious comparisons. John Travolta, for example, carefully studied the President's accent and mannerisms and had his hair frosted grey for the Stanton character, who has his own sex scandal after an affair with the teenage daughter of a restaurant owner.

The studio denied that the segment involving Thompson had been removed from the film to placate Mrs Clinton.

"Lots of things are shot that don't make it into the movie," said Stu Zakim, an official at Universal. But he added: "All of this has nothing to do with the First Lady."

AIDS IN REMISSION

# New hope costing victims £120 benefits

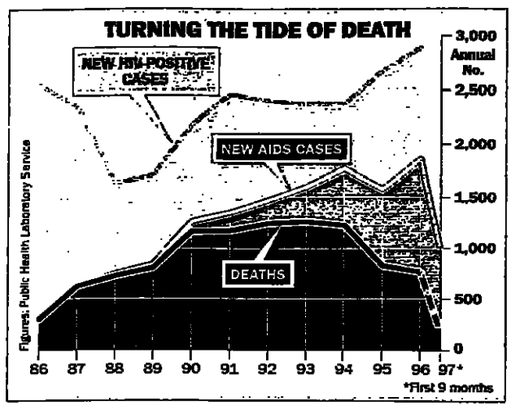
Disability allowances have been cut after drug success, writes **Dominic Kennedy**

People with Aids are losing £120 a week disability benefit because revolutionary drug treatments are giving them their health back. Thousands of sufferers had been automatically signed on to the maximum rate of care and mobility allowances on a fast-track system designed for the terminally ill.

A Government review of the 6,000 Aids patients on Disability Living Allowance has discovered that many are not only unexpectedly alive, but are in better health than when their condition was diagnosed. The improvements are linked to the new combinations of powerful drugs that have dramatically cut both the death rate from Aids and the deterioration of people who are HIV-positive.

The latest statistics reacord the biggest fall in new Aids cases and in Aids-related deaths since the epidemic reached the United Kingdom in 1982, when it killed 10,663 Britons. By using a combination of three drugs, people who are infected with HIV can delay the onset of Aids, the condition that causes the body's immune system to break down, leaving patients unable to fight disease.

Similar combinations of tablets, given to people who have already developed Aids, have greatly increased their chances of survival. From January to March 1996, 370 people died of Aids. Between July and September 1997, deaths had fallen to 70. New Aids cases have halved in the same 18-month period. The rates are at the lowest level since 1986.




Paradoxically, the risk of becoming infected with HIV is greater than ever. Because fewer people who are HIV-positive are dying, there are more of them in Britain than at any time: about 20,000 have the virus. Health chiefs fear complacency will stop people using condoms.

The Terrence Higgins Trust, a welfare organisation, is considering appeals on behalf of half-a-dozen people who have lost the £120-a-week mobility and care grant they were awarded for life when they were considered terminally ill.

A 32-year-old former railway steward from London had his income cut from £191 a week to £70 after a visit by two Department of Social Security officials. Many other Aids patients have been sent letters alerting them to the review.

In another move beginning this month, pregnant women will be urged by the Government to take Aids tests because new drug therapies can hugely reduce the risk of passing the condition to their babies.

Already 385 British children have been infected with HIV by their mothers and about a third of them are dead. Three out of four pregnant women who carry the Aids virus do not know it. If they took precautions, they could reduce the risk of passing the condition to their children from one in three to one in 18.

Leaflets will be distributed in clinics this month. If they fail to encourage women to volunteer for the tests, more extreme action will be considered.

Leading doctors are already urging the Government to include HIV with the other tests done on all pregnant women, for anaemia, syphilis and rubella. HIV tests cost the health service £8.50 each.

Brian Gazzard, chairman of the British HIV Association, said: "The option of HIV tests should be discussed with all pregnant women. The expense is very small compared with the expense of children being HIV-infected."

CHRIS HARRIS



Michael Reid with his dog, Sharon. The drug therapy has increased his energy, as well as his lifespan

## Cocktail that cheats death

CASE STUDY

MICHAEL REID, a computer expert, had already chosen the music and poetry for his cremation when he was saved from death by a combination of powerful drugs (Dominic Kennedy writes).

The Aids virus has now been reduced to such a low level in his body that it cannot be detected. But, as he approaches a 36th birthday he thought he would never see, his daily life has turned into a struggle to outmanoeuvre the deadly enemy within.

Combination therapy works by hitting the virus with three drugs, so if the HIV mutates to beat one of them, it is killed by another. The tablets have to be taken in the right quantities, at the correct intervals, some on an empty stomach, others after eating. Otherwise the virus seizes its chance and a mutant version can attack.

Mr Reid must take drugs at 8am, 4pm, 8pm and midnight. He has to fast between 6am and 9am, 2pm and 5pm, 6pm and 9pm and 10pm and midnight. This routine is likely to last for the rest of his life. "Dinner is a nightmare and socialising is virtually impossible," says Mr Reid, from Camberwell, southeast London.

He was a £1,300-a-week database designer when HIV was diagnosed, caught through unprotected sex, in 1988. He became ill with Aids two years ago and has been on the new drugs for 13 months. He nursed his partner, Dave Range, an oil broker, through the final year of his illness until he died aged 42.

Mr Reid said: "It sounds strange, but it is an ambivalent feeling in some respects, because I had thought I was going to die and had got used to that. It is a bit uncomfortable to think I am going to start planning for possibly a number of years yet. There is a lot of guilt. A lot of my friends are dead."

The therapy has increased Mr Reid's energy, but he still gets a painful hand infection. His medicine cabinet contains an array of drugs to treat other complications of Aids, including nausea, stomach upsets and skin complaints.

During his remission, he has returned to America, where he once worked, for a holiday. He expects the drugs will one day fail him. "I wouldn't be very depressed. Whatever I get now has been extra, it has been a bonus."

## THE COST OF THE DRUGS

Drug combinations to treat Aids are the greatest advance since the incurable illness was named in 1982 (Dominic Kennedy writes).

Jonathan Weber, Professor of Communicable Diseases at Imperial College School of Medicine in London, compared the breakthrough to the discovery of penicillin. "It has absolutely transformed the whole area," said Professor Weber, who sits on a United Nations Aids committee. "It is not a cure, but it is a fantastic treatment."

HIV is spread through blood and sexual contact. An infected person is prone to develop Aids, which destroys the immune system, leaving an individual unable to fight off disease. Nobody knows how Aids is triggered. Some people carry the virus for years and stay healthy.

Until the combination treatment, Aids patients would raise their hopes every time a new drug emerged, only to have them dashed. The virus managed to mutate, becoming resistant to the treatment. Doctors began using two drugs together, with more promising results. The breakthrough came with combinations of three drugs.

In the past 18 months in Britain, these have slowed the onset of Aids in people with HIV and have cut the death rate dramatically. The drugs cost about £10,000 per patient per year.

The weaker drugs used are the five nucleoside analogues such as AZT and 3TC. The strongest anti-Aids drugs are the three protease inhibitors: Ritonavir, Indinavir and Saquinavir.

Combination therapy can have serious side-effects, including nausea, diarrhoea, vomiting, abdominal pain, lethargy, rashes, kidney stones, mouth ulcers and spontaneous bleeding. Doctors may prescribe one combination, then change it if the patient responds badly. Up to a third of people are expected to receive no benefit from the treatment.

The unknown factor is whether the Aids virus will be able to develop a resistance to combination therapy, returning scientists to square one.

The pharmaceutical giants who are making the key drugs include Glaxo Wellcome, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Roche. The Government has already announced an extra £23 million in this year's health budget to pay for the treatments. In sub-Saharan Africa, where 30.6 million people have the virus, a cheap vaccine is the best hope.

VaxGen, a biotechnology company in California, has begun a trial involving 7,500 healthy people being injected with a harmless, synthetic version of HIV, with the aim of creating a decoy.

Because the combinations are so complicated to prescribe, the Department of Health is to consider appointing certain hospitals around the country as regional specialist units for treating HIV and Aids.

This would relieve the pressure on London. Many patients travel to the capital knowing they can be treated by the best specialists.

Health authorities in areas where few people have HIV are reluctant to buy vital but expensive equipment to monitor the progress of the virus in the body.

Now on at over 200 showrooms nationwide

THE MOBEN HALF PRICE JANUARY SALE



FREE INSTALLATION FOR 7 DAYS ONLY

On every unit in our Boston range and all integrated appliances†

INTEGRATED APPLIANCE OFFERS

LESS THAN HALF PRICE AND ALL FULLY FITTED FREE†

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY



Deluxe fan oven & grill.
£369
£169
TKC201

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY

BUY ALL 5 Appliances FOR ONLY
£2055
£699
INC. 5 YEAR PARTS AND LABOUR WARRANTY

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY



INTEGRATED freezer.††
£589
£199
TKR621

NEFF TECNIK
Built-in appliances - Examples of over 50

LESS THAN HALF PRICE AND INSTALLED FREE†

| | |
|---|---|
| Neff T2113 Gas hob with push button control & pan supports. | List price £175 NOW £85 |
| Neff B1420 Circotherm oven & grill available white or brown. | List price £435 NOW £217 |
| Neff S5443 Fully integrated dishwasher 12 place settings.†† | List price £750 NOW £349 |
| Tecnik TKH370 Colonial gas hob with electronic ignition. | List price £159 NOW £79 |
| Tecnik TKC231 Deluxe fan oven & grill available in green. | List price £439 NOW £210 |

Offers only apply to kitchen purchases over £2500. Only one of each type of appliance per order.

MOBEN

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY



INTEGRATED dishwasher.††
£559
£99
TKD701

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY



Gas hob push button control.
£159
£75
TKH301

LIMITED PERIOD ONLY



INTEGRATED fridge.††
£459
£174
TKR601

VISIT THE MOBEN JANUARY SALE AT OVER 200 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE

For a free brochure and to talk directly to your local showroom call this number now

0345 001122

SHOWROOMS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK MON–FRI 10.00AM–5.30PM SAT 9.00AM–5.30PM SUN 10.00AM–4.00PM
(Scotland Sunday 11.00am–4.00pm)

Kitchen and appliance offers only apply to kitchen purchases over £2500. Retail prices refers to price list dated 24.11.97. Only one of each type of appliance per order. Fitting excludes customers own appliances. †Is suitable on site supplies. ††Integrated doors available at extra cost. No other offers apply.

Book early to guarantee the best price with SeaFrance, so you can relax until Summer.




When embarking on your holiday this Summer you can enjoy the French atmosphere of our restaurants and bars without losing sleep over the price. SeaFrance monitor the competitive fares on a regular basis ensuring the lowest price around. This is SeaFrance's price guarantee. You can alter your dates and times of sailing before travel, free of charge.

You can't afford to lie around though. Book by 31st March 1998 and travel from Dover to Calais for only £89* return, which includes a car and up to five passengers.

the différence c'est SEAFRANCE

0990 711711

For bookings and information visit our website at http://www.seafrance.com

*Ticket non-refundable

TM4 4

هكذا من الأصل



AIDS IN REMISSION

# Britain leads return of the gay bathhouse

## As London lures the homosexual visitor, **Dominic Kennedy** reports on a revival of 1970s' hedonism

GAY bathhouses, where homosexual males can meet new partners, are booming in Britain as the fear of Aids recedes in a newly self-confident community. The bathhouses began in San Francisco in the sexually liberated 1970s, but a decade later the establishments were closed by health officials because they were blamed for spreading HIV.

In Britain, there has been a spate of openings of well-equipped, expensive all-male health clubs and spas, the biggest involving a £2 million investment to recreate the hedonistic atmosphere of the baths in ancient Rome.

Health experts fear that a premature "post-Aids euphoria" is making young people complacent about protecting themselves from HIV by using condoms. The figures for sexually transmitted diseases, which fell sharply during the early 1990s when "safer sex" became the norm for casual relationships, have risen by 17 per cent in men and 13 per cent in women in a year.

One of the biggest rises is among women aged 16 to 24, a generation too young to remember the initial panic about Aids. Randy Shilts, the San Franciscan journalist, wrote in his authorative history of the epidemic, *And The Band Played On*: "From a purely medical standpoint, the [American] bathhouses were a horrible breeding ground for disease."

There are now 11 saunas for gays in London, more than in San Francisco, New York, Los Angeles, Amsterdam and Sydney combined, according to international guides for homosexual travellers. Brighton and Manchester also have a thriving bathhouse scene. The London Tourist Board is promoting the capital as a welcoming holiday destination for wealthy American gays.

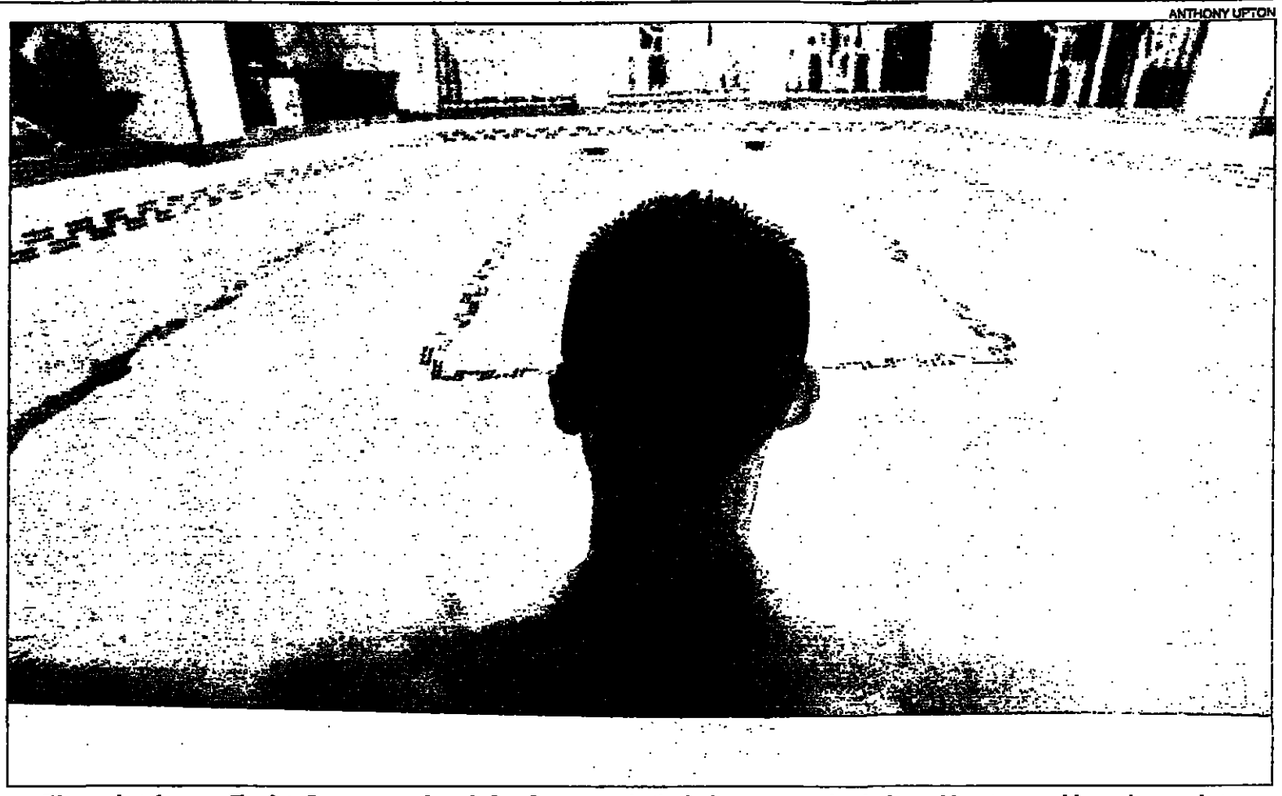
The largest and newest gay baths in Britain is the all-male Chariots Roman Spa in Shoreditch, conveniently close to the City of London. American Express cards are accepted. For the £12 entry fee, a visitor gets a small towel and access to a well-equipped weights room, several saunas, steamrooms, whirlpool baths and a swimming pool. The spa can accommodate 300 men. Many customers are from France. A giant video screen shows films such as *Star Wars*, there is a soft drinks bar, snacks, sunbeds, climbing plants and hothouse flowers. Free face cream is available in the locker room. Part of the spa is a dark corridor — its floor strewn with condom packets — containing cubicles in which individual men sit. Some of the doors are closed.

Paul Disney, Editor of the gay health magazine *Axiom*, said: "People are reasserting their sexual identities. When Aids first hit town, the scene went dead. Everyone panicked. People have come to terms with HIV and Aids."

David Northmore of *The Pink Paper* said: "There is a more confident mood among the gay community. We see messages coming through from the Establishment. When Gwent Police in South Wales wanted to recruit 30 officers, they came to us. Chris Smith's career as a Cabinet Minister has certainly not been affected by his sexual orientation. There have been a number of advances in relation to HIV and Aids, making a more optimistic mood."

Phil Hilton, Editor of *Men's Health*, aimed at heterosexuals, said the spread of sexual diseases suggested that people were using fewer condoms, but he questioned any return to 1970s' promiscuity and sexual liberation, and predicted that the young generation would cringe at its depiction in the new film *Boogie Nights*: "The swinger is seen as a figure of fun. People are huddling together for long-term relationships."

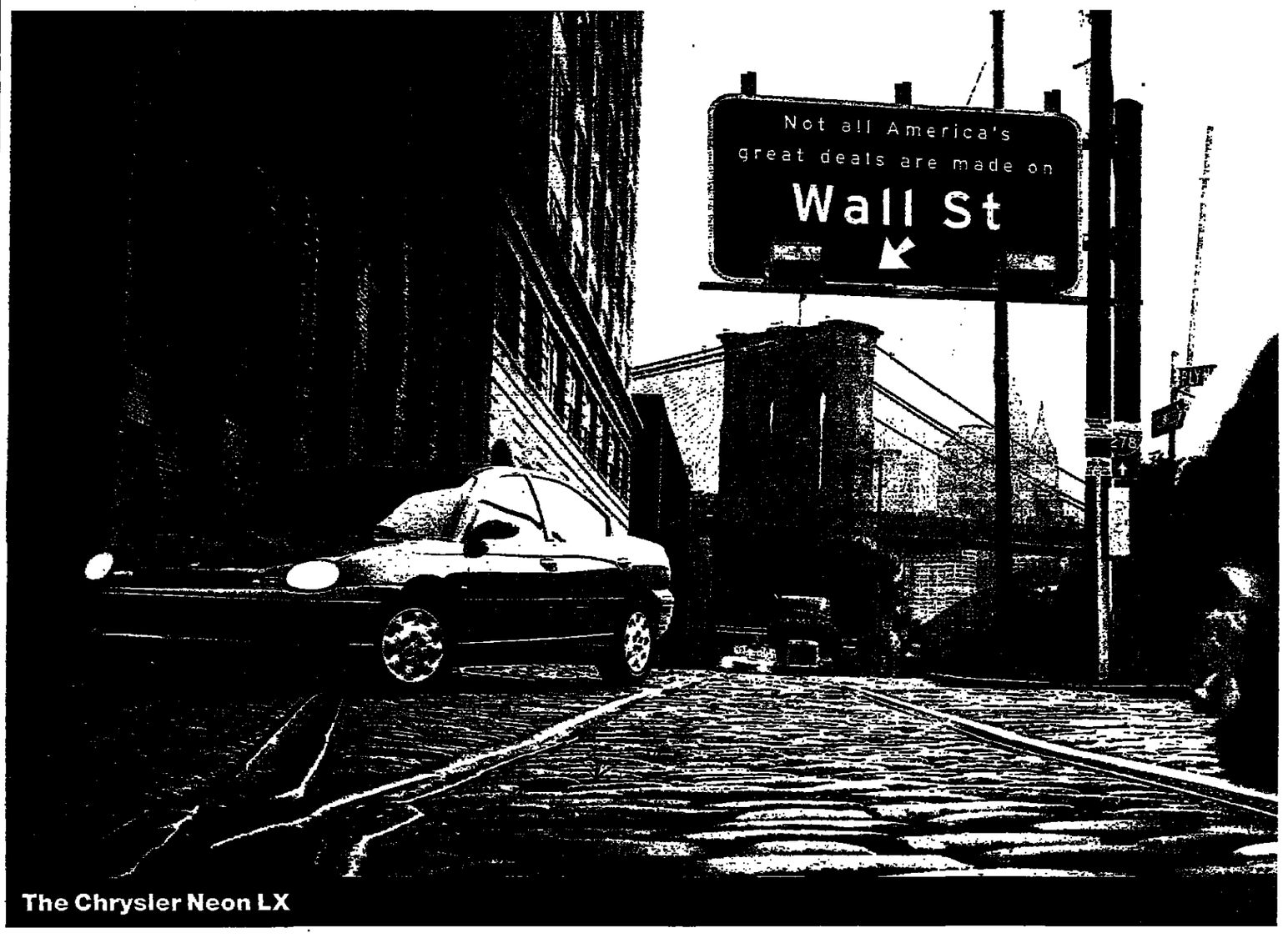
ANTHONY UPTON



The pool at the new Chariots Roman spa: there is free face cream in the locker room, and a dark corridor strewn with condom packets



Chariots, a £2 million investment near the City


The Chrysler Neon LX

AIR CONDITIONING. TWIN AIRBAGS. ABS BRAKES. AUTOMATIC AT NO EXTRA COST

3 year or 60,000 mile warranty. All for just £13,795 on the road. This is one great American deal you don't have to be a stockbroker to clinch. But having all the features you normally pay extra for, as standard, isn't all the Neon LX has to offer. There's also a 2.0 litre, 131 bhp engine, capable of 0-60 mph in only 9.5 seconds (8.8 in the automatic). So you won't just keep up with the Dow Joneses, you'll leave them behind. Why not visit your nearest Chrysler dealer for a test drive. It could be the best investment you ever make. The Neon LX. With everything as standard for just £13,795. AMERICA ON WHEELS

Chrysler

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 0800 616159.

RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICES OF NEON START AT £12,395 ON THE ROAD (INCLUDES ROAD FUND LICENCE AT £150. BUT NOT OPTION OF SUNROOF OR PEARLCOAT PAINT). PRICES AND SPECIFICATION ARE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. FOR LOCATION OF YOUR NEAREST DEALER SEND COUPON TO CHRYSLER INFORMATION SERVICE, FREEPOST 1048, SANDWICH, KENT CT13 9BR.

MR/MRS/MISS/MS (initials) .. SURNAME .. ADDRESS .. POSTCODE .. PHONE HOME .. PHONE BUSINESS .. NCT101-98



Virgin *MegaSavers.*

New York from £189 return.



SEAT BACK TV IN ECONOMY.

For world beating offers, that include all taxes, call us by 28 January on 01293 747 245. Or contact your local travel agent.

virgin atlantic

Fares are subject to change due to currency conversion. New York: fare £144, taxes £45.20. Book by 28 January 1998. Outbound travel by 31 March 1998. Limited availability. Other restrictions apply.

PC WORLD
THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE
BRITAIN'S BIGGEST COMPUTER SALE
SAVE UP TO £600 ON PCs

SAVE £100
PACKARD BELL
166MHz Pentium Processor with MMX Technology.
16Mb RAM. 2Gb hard disk.
256k cache memory. 20 speed multimedia. 1Mb PCI graphics card.
FREE over £1000 of software.† Including Word V8, Works V4, Encarta '97 and McAfee Virus Scan.
Was £999.
MODEL: 9029.
SAVE £100 SALE PRICE INC VAT £899

ALL PCs WE SELL ARE GUARANTEED YEAR 2000 COMPLIANT BRITISH STANDARD PD2000-2

SAVE £300
APRICOT
200MHz Pentium Processor with MMX Technology.
16Mb RAM. 2.1Gb hard disk. 16 speed multimedia. 33.6k modem.
Was £1299. £1199. MODEL: MS540 200MMX.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £999

SAVE £300
ADVENT
233MHz Intel Pentium II Processor.
32Mb RAM. 3.2Gb hard disk. 24 speed multimedia.
4Mb 3D graphics. 33.6k modem. 15" monitor. Was £1499. £1299. MODEL: 8300.
PENTIUM II SALE PRICE INC VAT £1199

SAVE £200
ACER
200MHz Pentium Processor with MMX Technology.
16Mb RAM. 2.1Gb hard disk. 16 speed multimedia. 33.6k modem.
PCI graphics card. Was £1199. MODEL: Acros 5200.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £999

SAVE £600
OLIVETTI
266MHz Intel Pentium II Processor.
32Mb RAM. 3.2Gb hard disk. 512k cache memory. 16 speed multimedia.
2Mb graphics. 15" monitor. Was £1995. £1795. £1499. MODEL: Modello M2-266MT.
PENTIUM II SALE PRICE INC VAT £1399

PERIPHERALS SAVE UP TO £100

SAVE £20
5.1Gb HARD DRIVE
Western Digital.
Increase your data storage capacity. *Worth £35.98. Offer applies to any Western Digital Hard Drive > 5Gb capacity.
Was £299.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £279

BUY 2 SAVE £10
8Mb SIMM MEMORY
PNY
Speed up your PC instantly and get the most from your multimedia and games. Total separate selling price £59.98.
PRICE FOR 2 INC VAT £49.98

SAVE £10
33.6k MODEM
Ciscom
Join the information superhighway and surf the Internet.
Was £79.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £69

SAVE £30
56k MODEM
Motorola VoiceSURFR
Surf with Internet, fax, e-mail at up to twice as fast as 28.8k modems. Was £129.
FREE Pipex Dial 4 worth £9.99.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £99

SAVE £30
56k MODEM
Motorola VoiceSURFR
Surf the Internet, fax, e-mail at up to twice as fast as 28.8k modems. Was £129. FREE Pipex Dial 4 worth £9.99.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £99

SAVE £10
700Mb PERSONAL DATA STORAGE
Iomega Zip Drive.
Expand the storage of your computer – quickly and easily – 100Mb at a time.
Was £119.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £109

FREE MEMORY*
3D GRAPHICS CARD
Orchid Righteous
*FREE PNY 2 x 4Mb Simms worth £35.98.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £159

SAVE £100
DIGITAL CAMERA
Casio QV11
Store up to 96 images at a resolution of 320 x 240 pixels.
Was £299.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £199

COLOUR INKJET PRINTERS NOW FROM ONLY £99

SAVE £20
HEWLETT PACKARD
Colour Inkjet Printer.
Up to 600 x 600 dpi resolution (black). Up to 600 x 300 dpi resolution (colour). Up to 5 pages per minute (black).
Includes Photo Cartridge.
Was £199. MODEL: DJ690C+.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £179

GREAT VALUE
EPSON
Colour Inkjet Printer.
Up to 1440 x 720 dpi resolution (black and colour). Up to 6 pages per minute (black). Up to 4 pages per minute (colour). PC and Mac compatible. MODEL: Stylus Color 600
INC VAT £219

SAVE £50
HEWLETT PACKARD
All In One Office Solution.
Colour inkjet printer, copier, scanner and PC fax.
Was £399. MODEL: Officejet 550.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £349

SAVE £20
LEXMARK
Colour Inkjet Printer.
Up to 600 x 600 dpi resolution (black and colour). Up to 3 pages per minute (black).
Includes Disney Hercules Print Studio.
Was £149. £109
MODEL: Ieprinter 1000.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £99

SAVE OVER £35
CANON
Colour Inkjet Printer and Photo Editing Studio.
Up to 720 x 360 dpi resolution (black and colour).
PLUS Photo Editing Studio – allows you to print and manipulate your own photographs. Total separate selling price £193.99 MODEL: BJC4000 + Photo Editing Studio.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £159

SOFTWARE SAVE UP TO HALF PRICE

HALF PRICE
COREL DRAW 7
Exceed the boundaries of traditional design with this package created for the professional illustrator, graphic artist and desktop publisher. Was £199.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £99

HALF PRICE
INTERACTIVE SONGBOOKS
Listen to your favourite tracks and learn how to play them. Choose from Oasis, Blur, Inxs, Sting/Police. Was £29.99.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £14.99

2 FOR £20
DORLING KINDERSLEY ORIGINALS RANGE
Choose from Stowaway, Ultimate Human Body, The Way Things Work, Virtual Reality Bird and Virtual Reality Cat.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £14.99 EACH

HALF PRICE
MCAFEE VIRUS SCAN ELECTRONIC UPDATE
Protects desktop computers from virus infection and damage. Was £29.99.
SALE PRICE INC VAT £14.99

SAVE £20
RED ALERT TRIPLE PACK
This triple pack features the original explosive strategy game plus the additional missions.
Total Separate Selling Price £59.97.
INC VAT £39.97

UP TO 12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*
WITH NO DEPOSIT ON ALL PRODUCTS OVER £250
OR
29.5% APR

PC WORLD
THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE
FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE CALL 0990 464 464
LONDON AREA
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

†† BY VOUCHER REDEMPTION. EXCLUDES BUSINESS PURCHASES. ASK IN-STORE FOR DETAILS. • INCLUDES 12 MONTHS SUBSCRIPTION TO INFOTRADE. DOES NOT INCLUDE COST OF PHONE CALLS. †BASED ON CURRENT SELLING PRICES OF ACTUAL OR EQUIVALENT TITLES (EXCLUDING DISKS AND MANUALS FOR PRE-LOADED SOFTWARE). THE INTEL INSIDE LOGO AND PENTIUM ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS AND MMX IS A TRADEMARK OF THE INTEL CORPORATION. ALL PRICES INCLUDE VAT. WRITTEN CREDIT QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM: DEPT MIX/PCW, MAYLANDS AVENUE, HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HP2 7TG.

# TV man's programme for London mayor

## Black interviewer is Labour's front-runner, writes Nicholas Wood

THE television presenter Trevor Phillips last night threw his hat into the ring in the tussle to become London's first elected mayor and Britain's most high-profile black politician.

Mr Phillips, 44, will play a prominent role in the Yes campaign in the referendum in May on the future administration of the capital, friends disclosed. His involvement signals his determination to enter the lists for the London job and is aimed at raising his political profile.

And with signs of backing from senior figures in the Blair camp, Mr Phillips looks likely to become the early front-runner for a post second only to that of Prime Minister in terms of personal authority and prestige.

He was born into a poverty-stricken West Indian family of nine crammed into two rooms in a North London tenement. As a baby he was packed off to his parents' homeland of Guyana. After turning down a scholarship to Massachusetts Institute of Technology he became the first black president of the National Union of Students and one of the few non-whites to become a frontline television presenter — of *The London Programme*.

Urbane, articulate and good-looking, Mr Phillips now moves effortlessly among the glitterati of Tony Blair's New Britain. He is much in demand as a safe pair of hands on politically correct quangos and charities such as the Runnymede Trust, the race relations think-tank.

Peter Mandelson, the Prime Minister's Svengali, was best man at his wedding and Downing Street insiders say that he is uniquely equipped to stay "on message" while giving the Labour champion for one of the biggest jobs in British politics a stylish and radical cutting edge.

It is all a far cry from the left-wing firebrand who likened Margaret Thatcher to the Ayatollah and denounced a Metropolitan Police Commissioner as a "jackass".

Mr Phillips's older brother Mike, a successful crime writer, believes his brother's skills as a politician, slick bureaucrat and would-be city boss stem from a childhood spent criss-crossing half the globe. "When you shuffle between countries you get a kind of added maturity." Mike, nine years his senior, said.

Their father had moved to Britain to work on the railways, then switched to being a postman. Marjorie, their mother, now in her eighties, worked in a sweatshop as a seamstress. By the age of seven Trevor had returned to Britain to live in a three-storey Edwardian terraced house, overlooked by a gasometer in Wood Green, North London.

In the late 1960s, alarmed by Enoch Powell and the worsening climate of race relations, the family moved to New York, where most of them still live. However Mr Phillips did not go with them. His father decided that the mean streets of New York were not the place to bring up a black teenager and he returned to Guyana. But four years later he was back in London, studying chemistry at Imperial College, having turned down places at MIT and Harvard.

Ian Gauntlet, a childhood friend who is now an anaesthetist in Somerset, recalls a boy who moved easily between white and black society.



Trevor Phillips with his wife, Asha — from poverty to being one of the glitterati

### THE RUNNERS AND RIDERS

**Conservative**

**Lord Archer**, 57, political career has never matched his talents for writing best-sellers and grabbing the limelight. Campaigning hard for a contest in 2000.

**Chris Patten**, 53, former governor of Hong Kong and Cabinet minister. Undoubted heavyweight but does he have higher ambitions?

**Steve Norris**, 52, managed to keep five mistresses and his job as a minister. Fast-talking former used car salesman. Not to be underestimated.

**Labour**

**Ken Livingstone**, 52, left-wing MP for Brent East and a popular former leader of defunct Greater London Council. Now target of a "stop Ken" campaign. Guaranteed not to get Tony Blair's vote.

**Glenda Jackson**, 61, won Oscars as an actress but her ministerial performances remain rather wooden. Only first-rank woman candidate.

"He was very popular and always friendly. Everybody wanted to be his friend. I don't remember racism ever being an issue. You never got the feeling that he had a chip on his shoulder about being black."

Mr Phillips's father, an active trade unionist who took an interest in local politics, encouraged his sons to play the piano and guitar like him and helped them to develop literary tastes beyond their years. Trevor, too, began to take an interest in politics, leading a school strike in Georgetown in his mid-teens. Mike recalls: "Trevor was arrested at gunpoint and taken away. My aunt drove behind the Jeep they took him in and she stood at the gates of the barracks and said that she would not go away until he came out. But he just got a ticking off from the Minister of Security."

Articulate and well-connected in the world of student politics, it was little surprise when a bearded, woolly-hatted Mr Phillips was elected president of the National Union of Students in 1978, a post he held until 1980.

By then Mr Phillips had met Mr Mandelson. Together with Charles Clarke, then National Union of Students president and now a Labour MP, they were leading figures in the British delegation to the 1978 Democratic Youth Festival in Cuba — a Soviet front organisation. Contrary to Westminster folklore, Mr Phillips was never a Communist.

He and Asha, his Indian-born wife, live in Stanmore, North London. She is a part-time child psychotherapist and they have two daughters at the fee-paying North London Collegiate School.

His current project, to be screened by BBC 2 in May, is a four-part documentary marking the 50th anniversary of the arrival of the first Jamaican immigrants in Britain. To coincide with the hour-long programmes, he has written a book *Windrush* with his brother.

That, too, should also help to raise his political profile.

### THE WORLD ACCORDING TO TREVOR PHILLIPS



Phillips in 1978

☐ The only people who appeared to have been held were black. — On immigration controls (*The Sun*, October 1976)

☐ Where police help is not forthcoming, blacks have no alternative but to organise their own protection. — On racial violence (*The Guardian*, September 1978)

☐ Her refusal to be swayed by any opinion other than those even more right-wing and reactionary than her own compares only with the Ayatollah. — On Margaret Thatcher (*The Daily Telegraph*, December 1979)

☐ Children should know that when the Tudors created the greatest maritime power ever seen, as well as ruling the waves, they used their power to perpetrate a genocide we now call the slave trade. — On multicultural schooling (*The Independent*, January 1998)

☐ Astonishingly, John Motson's insult has, so far, gone unpunished by the BBC. So much for the protestations of the corporation that it really wants to embrace Britons of all kinds. — On the football commentator's racial own goal — (*The Independent*, January 1998)

# Private money for Tube still under review, says Prescott

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

NO DECISION had been taken on the future of the London Underground despite reports that the Government was planning the partial privatisation of the service, John Prescott insisted yesterday.

The Deputy Prime Minister said an announcement would be made soon about how much private sector involvement in the Tube would be allowed under the Government's plan to boost investment.

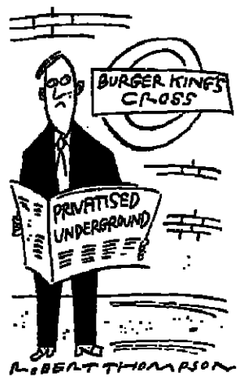
He has already rejected the wholesale sell-off of the network, which desperately needs cash to solve problems of overcrowding, outdated rolling-stock, delays and high fares. But Mr Prescott did not rule out reports that the Government was considering selling off the Tube tracks, tunnels and stations while keeping the operation of train services in the public sector.

Under this option the Tube's infrastructure would be sold off in three separate parts with leases of up to 30 years. The latest proposals come from a panel of businessmen advising Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, who is responsible for the Government's overall approach to private-public sector deals.

Mr Prescott is understood to have reservations about this option and would prefer to offer private companies a stake in the infrastructure with the Government keeping a controlling interest. He said yesterday that he wanted a "modern, top class Underground system" that would remain "accountable" to the people of London.

"We have always rejected the [wholesale] privatisation option," he said. "I am very pleased with the progress we have made in our discussion of the options. I am very confident that we will soon be able to make an announcement about the sort of public-private partnership which I want and which will bring in the resources necessary to ensure that Londoners have the modern underground system they deserve into the next millennium."

Officials at the Department for the Environment, Transport and the Regions said Mr Prescott would not be rushed into a decision that he wanted to get right.




The Treasury confirmed that Mr Robinson had been seeking informal advice from businessmen about London Underground. Their proposals were welcomed by Simon Sperryn, chief executive of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, who said: "If this plan goes ahead it will be the first step in relieving the misery for the two million people who use the Tube every day."

Sir Alan Greengross, chairman of the London Regional Passengers Committee, said that the plans would do nothing to help passengers or solve the chronic underfunding. "The Underground needs instant money, secure means of future finance and good management. None of the schemes being put forward seem to be addressing these problems," he said.

هكذا من الأصل



# The day the fun millionaire had to play it straight

## A solemn Richard Branson defends his honour in libel trial writes Damian Whitworth

ONE man in his time plays many parts. But there are some in the theatre of public life whose repertoire of roles seems to encompass everything from leading man to drag artist. Richard Branson has been memorable as a pop music mogul, airline boss, railway chief, a Prime Minister's desert island lunch companion and once, shaved of his beard, he donned a wedding dress and hammed it up as a bride.

There was no such flamboyance yesterday. In Court 13 of the Royal Courts of Justice he continued his debut performance as a witness in a libel trial. He played it straight. Without any appearance of nerves, he hopped up into the witness box yesterday. His costume was modern dress; the casual wear of a successful 1990s man on a dress-down Friday. He performed a double act with his QC, George Carman, but it was hardly knockabout stuff. Early on there was an indication of what sort of entertainment was on offer when Mr Carman, referring to the opening remarks of his opposing QC, Richard Ferguson, asked his client if this libel case was indeed intended as a "razzamatazz show". Mr Branson replied solemnly: "I think all of us have got busy schedules and what we are trying to do is decide who is telling the truth. This is a very important matter."

The truth. Again and again in answer to the questions Mr Carman lobbed to him Mr Branson talked of the truth. Of coming here to get to the truth, of finding who was telling the truth, of how unpleasant and hurtful it was to be accused publicly of lying about his assertion that Guy Snowden of GTech had tried to bribe him.

Mr Branson tended to um and ah and er a lot in his answers but Mr Carman led him through his line of questioning and set him up for his peroration. "In life all you have is your reputation both personally and in business. In business I have literally millions of people who put their trust in me every year," said Mr Branson.

In Act 2 he performed a less comfortable duet with Mr Ferguson. Mr Snowden blinked up at the man who had earlier called him the "most odious man" he had ever met.

He said that just before the alleged attempted bribe, Mr Snowden had told him that Mr Branson's idea to give all lottery profits to charity was going to cost the American up to £900 million.

Mr Branson, who had been lunching with Mr Snowden in 1993 at the time, said: "I was fascinated that somebody could go to the lengths of trying to bribe somebody who was obviously wealthy, who runs the largest private company in Britain."

Mr Branson criticised the director-general of Oflot. Peter Davies, in his evidence, accusing him of changing his story "on two or three occasions".

Under cross-examination Mr Branson's um-ing and ah-ing and er-ing continued as he wrestled to remember events and dates. Then he dried completely. In the midst of detailed questioning about what was written in what notebook when, the nightmare that has haunted all those who have dared to utter in public since the beginning of time, was realised for the Virgin boss.

"I'm sorry, my mind's gone blank," he said. The court usher passed him a glass of water. The court room held its breath as one. "Um... I'm sorry... what on earth ... I can't remember what the, what do you mean, meant... at the time."

After the interval Mr Branson was cross-examined about exactly what he had written when he left his lunch with Mr Snowden to jot down a note of the converstaion in the lavatory. This was referred to by the judge, and thereafter everyone else, as "the loo note". Mr Branson was asked if anyone else had actually seen this note to which he replied hotly: "You seem to be questioning my integrity." Mr Ferguson flashed back: "You are very sensitive Mr Branson. When I get to question your integrity you'll know about it."

This two-hander was still running when it was time for the curtain to come down on the week.

☐ *Additional reporting by Joanna Bale*

ANDRÉ CAMARA



Richard Branson: "You seem to be questioning my integrity," he told the opposing QC, Richard Ferguson

### 'I DO NOT EMBELLISH THINGS'

**Mr Ferguson put to Mr Branson that a sentence attributed to Mr Snowden — "I mean, what can we do for you personally?" had been made up.**

**The barrister said: "I suggest to you that the addition of this sentence, including the word 'personally', when it came to the defence to these proceedings, that that was an embellishment, an addition made by you to try to strengthen your case that what had been said by Mr Snowden amounted to a bribe."**

**Mr Branson: "There is nothing that needs strengthening in this case. I do not embellish things."**

**Later, Mr Branson told the court: "I was fascinated that somebody could go to the lengths of trying to bribe somebody who was obviously wealthy, who runs the largest private company in Britain."**

# A long way from sipping cola and grabbing Pamela

BY PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

THE subdued Richard Branson who appeared in Court 13 of the High Court this week was a very different man from the exuberant tycoon who launched Virgin Cola by manhandling Pamela Anderson.

On Wednesday, the very day Mr Branson arrived in court to face Guy Snowden, the chairman of the American lottery company GTech, in a libel and counter-libel action, *The Mirror* reported a row which had taken place between Mr Branson and Elton John following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, concerning the best way to raise money for her foundation. The story included a petulant exchange of faxes, in which Mr John came out on top.

But then, it has not been the best of times for Mr Branson. His second attempt to circumnavigate the globe in a hot air balloon floated off into the Moroccan sky before Christmas. Then, this week, Virgin's West Coast train service was named by the rail regulator as one of the worst five services in terms of delays.

Trying to solve the endemic problems of British rail travel has resulted so far only in dimming the lustre of the once untarnishable Virgin name. Branson's difficulties are baffling because they come at a time when he should be riding high. Branson was New Britain and Cool Britannia long before Tony Blair appropriated the terms.

The best-known businessman in the world after Bill Gates, his unfailing feel for the popular, always one step ahead of the vulgar, coupled with his business successes and apparently blameless private life have ensured his position at the top of all those polls asking who would make a decent head of state in a British republic.

His failure to come out publicly for Labour at the election, however, has meant that he has been denied the plums being now being handed out by the Government to those prominent businessmen who did. Instead Mr Branson is out of New Labour's loop and embroiled in a nasty little law suit.

Camelot were granted the lottery contract in May, 1994, but Mr Branson waited another 18 months, until the *Panorama* programme, to go public with his charge. He says he told Peter Davies, the Oflot chief, about the alleged bribe offer soon after Camelot were awarded the lottery, but Davies says he cannot remember this. When Mr Snowden and GTech denied Mr Branson's allegations, Mr Branson sued them for calling him a liar. Mr Snowden then counter-sued for libel. Two years after the events in question and long after he had been denied control of the lottery, Branson had the fight he had been spoiling for.

Snowden's legal team, headed by Richard Ferguson, QC, are hoping to show Branson is a reckless accuser who has taken a step too far. It is a low key strategy in response to Mr Branson's. Fighting his corner, Mr Branson has George Carman, QC. As Mr Carman showed while defending *The Guardian* against the former Cabinet minister Jonathan Aitken, pulling rabbits out of hats is his speciality.



Snowden: counter-suing Branson for libel

# Teenage triad gang detained for attack

BY LIN JENKINS

FIVE teenage members of a self-styled "triad" gang responsible for some of the most violent crimes in London carried out a vicious attack on a schoolboy and two friends as they ransacked his home.

One, Cesare Cardenas, is already serving 11 years for his part in the rape of an Austrian tourist in 1996 and was on bail for that crime at the time.

At the Old Bailey yesterday the judge, Ann Goddard, said he would have to spend a further year in detention. Colombian-born Cardenas, 15, was a ringleader of Wo Shing Wo whose members included his best friends Learco Chindamo, detained indefinitely for murdering the headmaster Phillip Lawrence, and Gregory Gananto, detained for eight years for the stabbing of the husband of Dame Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions.

The attack bore all the hallmarks of the gang's crimes and was punctuated by extreme violence. They held their victims at knifepoint, punched one repeatedly, and held a gas gun to his throat. Cardenas hit one over the head with a dumbbell.

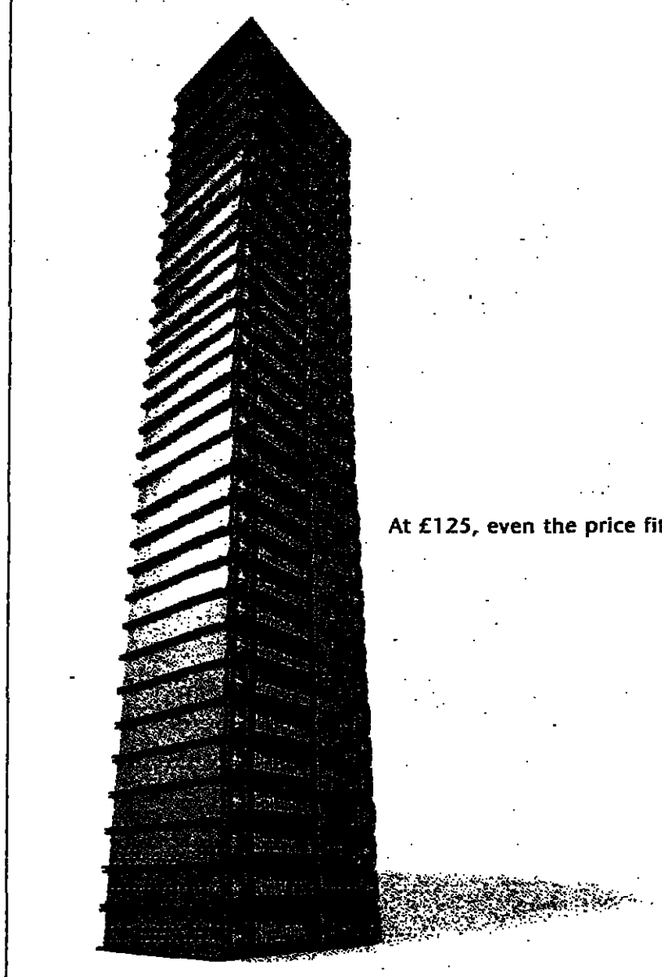
Four were only 14 years old at the time of the crime in February last year and all five were playing truant from school.

One of the youths had gone to with a friend to his flat, where he let the other gang members in. They stole goods worth £3,000 and sprayed racist, anti-white graffiti around the rooms.

The youths all live in North London. Mauricio Jaramillo, 15, also born in Colombia, was sentenced to three years' youth custody after admitting robbery and false imprisonment.

Paul Espinoza, 16, who was born in Peru, was ordered to be detained for four years after being convicted of false imprisonment and robbery. Kenny Onyeuma, 15, received 18 months after admitting false imprisonment and burglary.

The youth who let the gang into the North London flat was ordered to spend 24 hours at an attendance centre.

At £125, even the price fits.

Who would have believed it? 229 years, 32 volumes, 44,000,000 words and 72,000 articles, all squeezed on to two convenient CDs. Well, we've done it. And at just £125, even the price fits perfectly. What's more, we've even found room for some of the most exciting multimedia around. There are over 8,000 photos and illustrations, and many video, animation and audio files along with 15,000 related Internet links. To order your Britannica CD 98 Multimedia Edition call 0800 282 433, email ebrit@eb.co.uk or pop into your local book shop or computer retailer. Of course, if all this technology just isn't you, rest assured our famous printed set is still available.

Encyclopædia Britannica

Encyclopaedia Britannica and Britannica are registered trademarks of Encyclopaedia Britannica International, Ltd.

BTM01985A

STAPLES The Office Superstore

ARE YOU PAYING MORE THAN...

STAPLES PRICE £9.99 INC. VAT £8.50 EX. VAT

1000 DL Self-Seal WHITE ULTRA VALUE ENVELOPES CR 403

A4 Takes A4 sheet folded twice

FOR 1,000 DL WHITE SELF-SEAL ENVELOPES SKU 258335

PLUS 4 PENCILS FREE STAPLES PRICE £1.99 INC. VAT £1.69 EX. VAT

10 + 4 PAPERMATE NON-STOP PENCILS SKU 207233

STAPLES PRICE £1.69 INC. VAT £1.43 EX. VAT

ECONOMY BOX FILE SKU 102368

160 Leaf Pad A4 STAPLES PRICE 69p INC. VAT 58p EX. VAT

A4 160 LEAF PAD SKU 261057

FOR YOUR NEAREST STAPLES STORE OR TO PLACE AN ORDER FREEFONE 0800 14 14 14

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK MONDAY-FRIDAY 8-8 SATURDAY 9-6 and SUNDAY (Open 6 hours, times may vary*)

ASHTON, BASINGSTOKE, BIRMINGHAM: ASTON, WATERLINKS, OLDBURY, SOUTH YARDLEY, WILLENHALL, WEST BROMWICH, BOLTON, BRADFORD, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, CARDIFF, CHATHAM, CHELMSFORD, COLCHESTER, DONCASTER, EXETER, HANLEY, HIGH WYCOMBE, HULL, IPSWICH, LEEDS, LONDON: BECKTON, CROYDON, STAPLES CORNER, MANCHESTER, MILTON KEYNES, NORTHAMPTON, POOLE, READING, ROTHERHAM, SHEFFIELD, SOUTHAMPTON, STOCKTON, SUNDERLAND, SWANSEA, TELFORD, TRURO, WAKEFIELD, WARRINGTON

LOW PRICE PROMISE

FREE NEXT DAY DELIVERY*

*Call for details. All items are subject to availability. †Ask in store for details. ◆Next day delivery orders must be received by 6pm Monday to Friday and we'll deliver the next working day to anywhere in the UK mainland. Orders placed on Sunday will be delivered on Tuesday. (Orders under £30 ex. VAT are subject to our delivery charge of £2.90 ex. VAT, £3.41 inc. VAT)

# Night creatures surface for party in Courtroom 6

JAMES BONE'S NEW YORK



CLUB kids, ravers, white Rastafarians and even a demure drag queen squeezed into Courtroom 6 of the Brooklyn Federal Courthouse this week for the most fabulous party in town. The creatures of the night had assembled to watch their eye-patched pied piper, Peter Gatien, go on trial for drug trafficking at his clubs.

The wiry, Canadian-born impresario is the uncontested king of New York nightlife, running Manhattan institutions such as Limelight, The Tunnel, Club USA and Palladium. But a crew of clean-cut prosecutors has assembled a motley collection of former underlings to testify that Mr Gatien turned his clubs into "drug supermarkets" to attract a young and trendy crowd. The case has sent a chill through the city's club scene, forcing several establishments to roll up the velvet cord and close their doors.

Mr Gatien, 46, arrived at court in a sober grey suit, grey tie and plastic shoes. He swapped his trademark eye-patch, which he uses to cover a childhood ice-hockey injury, for a pair of dark glasses. The trial began with the customary drama of clubland when police discovered one key prosecution witness, a 22-year-old partygoer called Cynthia Haaraja, dead in her bed in Queens from a suspected drug overdose.

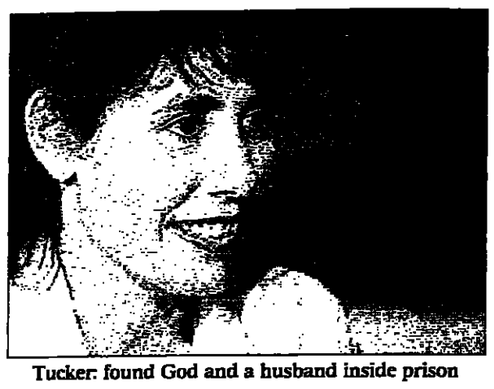
That was the second blow to the prosecution's case. The Government's star witness was originally meant to be Mr Gatien's party promoter, Michael Alig, a notorious night-bird who claimed his boss handpicked a "house dealer" to sell drugs. That strategy fell apart, however, when the headless torso of Andre "Angel" Melendez surfaced in the Hudson River. Mr Alig was convicted of killing him and has since recanted his allegations against Mr Gatien. Instead, prosecutors are relying on a Rocky Marciano-lookalike from Staten Island called Michael "Lord Michael" Caruso.

The thick-set Italian-American appeared on the witness stand to detail the workings of Mr Gatien's empire. The jurors, apparently picked for advancing age and lack of dress sense, seemed puzzled by his testimony about "mosh pits" and drugs such as Special K. The court stenographer had to ask him how to spell "rave". "There are some very, very, very, very strange people that came to the clubs," Mr Gatien's lawyer warned the jury. "It doesn't make them disgusting." Mr Gatien, who denies the charges, will know his fate in six weeks.



BRENDAN BEIRNE / REX

Peter Gatien, the pied piper of New York's clubland, is on trial for drugs offences



Tucker: found God and a husband inside prison

## Woman hopes for her first kiss on death row

THE Religious Right has leapt into action to save Karla Faye Tucker from becoming the first woman to be executed in Texas since the Civil War. Although the petite axe-murderer found God on death row and married the prison chaplain, their union has never been consummated because prison rules do not allow any physical contact.

It is now up to George Bush, the Governor of Texas, son of the former American President and a Republican presidential hopeful himself, to decide whether the happy couple will ever get their first kiss.

☐ *I SPOTTED my first homeless man on rollerblades this week. He was skating from bin to bin to pick through the rubbish. Very efficient.*

☐ BARNEY ROSSET, the legendary New York publisher who fought epic censorship battles in the 1950s and 1960s to bring forbidden classics such as *Lady Chatterley's Lover* and *Tropic of Cancer* to American readers, has fallen victim to a Las Vegas casino owner.

From his Greenwich Village townhouse, he published not just D. H. Lawrence and Henry Miller, but Samuel Beckett, Jean Genet, Bertolt Brecht, Malcolm X and the American Beats.

Now 75, he runs a struggling publishing imprint called Blue Moon and was planning to sell his inventory to raise money when disaster struck. The casino owner, Steve Wynn, won a six-figure libel action against Rosset's distributor, Barricade Books, tying up his stockpile and forcing him into bankruptcy.

☐ CATCH 22 *might never have entered the lexicon. Joseph Heller reveals in his forthcoming memoir that he originally thought a catchy title for his seminal novel about an absurd military regulation would be* Catch 18. *He was forced to change the name because of Leon Uris's* Mila 18.

☐ A GANG of thieves executed a *Mission Impossible*-style heist inside the heavily guarded World Trade Centre, cleverly ambushing couriers inside and making off with $1 million in cash.

The crooks turned out to be just another group of bungling bandits, however. Caught on videotape by a security camera, they were quickly identified when customers at their favourite bar in Brooklyn saw them on television. The police received 56 tips, including one from a barber who had just given one of the robbers a quick trim.

## Titanic's feminist etiquette

**FEMINISTS are debating the so-called Titanic Dilemma: do you save women and children first? Camille Paglia, post-feminist maverick, to the rescue: "If I were captain of a sinking ocean liner with limited lifeboats, I would assign two well-trained crew members to each boat and fill them, without regard to gender, with able-bodied younger people first, from children on up. If this meant that no passengers over 35 or 40 would be saved, so be it." I vote we put Ms Paglia in charge of Noah's next Ark.**

## Shopping for a sanitised title

THE New York advertising campaign for Mark Ravenhill's West End hit, known in this newspaper as *Shopping and ****ing*, is causing something of a quandary. *The New York Times* (whose advance notices name the play as *Shopping and . . .*) has rejected an advertisement unless the title is toned down. For now, "uncensored" posters are going up around the city centre theatre.

## Perfect match

*UMA THURMAN, star of* Pulp Fiction, *the thinking man's sex symbol, and actor Ethan Hawke, the thinking woman's heart-throb, met filming* Gattaca, *about genetically engineered babies. They are expecting in July. Should be a perfect specimen.*

# US judge rules convicted mobster cannot be libelled

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A LIBEL suit, brought by a convicted racketeer and mob member, has been thrown out of court by a judge here on the ground that the plaintiff's reputation was already "so badly tarnished" that it could not possibly be further harmed.

John Cerasani, a Brooklyn legend, had sued the makers of the film *Donnie Brasco*, in which he was portrayed as a cold-hearted killer. This outraged Mr Cesarani, whose curriculum vitae includes bank robbery, drug-dealing and a spell as a "soldier" for the Bonnano crime family. He insisted that it does not include murder.

Indignant that his reputation had been "sullied", he sought $75,000 (£46,000) in compensation and punitive damages from the makers of the film, which starred Al Pacino and Johnny Depp.

Judge Denny Chin, of the Federal District Court in Manhattan, said: "I hold that Cerasani's reputation is so badly tarnished that, even assuming the pre-release and official version of the film are defamatory, he can suffer no further harm and hence no reasonable jury could award him anything more than nominal damages."

In dismissing the case, Judge Chin said: "I conclude that Cerasani is libel-proof."

The judge noted that Cerasani's misdeeds were described in great detail in the best-selling book, *Donnie Brasco: My Undercover Life in the Mafia*, by Joseph Pistone, an FBI agent who infiltrated the Bonnano crime family by posing as "Donnie Brasco".

Judge Chin emphasised that "Cerasani is generally reputed to be an associate of organised crime. He *has* committed serious crimes."

Legal experts hailed the unusual decision, saying that it highlighted a narrow stratum of American society which is inhabited by people of spectacular notoriety.

Burt Neuborne, a professor of law at New York University Law School, said: "I would assume that it's a relatively small category of people whose reputations are so bad they cannot get worse."

☐ **Novel sentence:** A woman described as "the landlady from hell" has been given a taste of her own medicine by a judge and sentenced to spend 60 days in the very building that she would not heat or clean for her cold and complaining tenants.

Florence Nyemitei, who owns two buildings in White Plains, in New York State, left her tenants without heating or water on the coldest days this month, when temperatures fell well below zero after dark.

The disgruntled tenants took her to court, where Judge JoAnn Friia hit upon her novel sentence.


PRICE CHECK PRICE – WE CAN'T BE BEATEN**

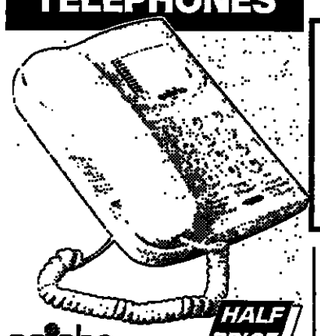
Dixons

CLEARANCE BARGAINS HURRY! LIMITED STOCK!

sale

SAVE UP TO 50% ON TELEPHONES

TELEPHONES



saisho 471 TELEPHONE
• 10 two touch number memory.
• Mute button.
• Last number redial.
Was £29.99. SALE PRICE £14.99

GEEMARC R80 TELEPHONE
• Last number redial.
• Available in Midnight Blue or Jade Green.
Was £14.99. SALE PRICE £12.99 SAVE £2

AUDIOLINE TEL8 TELEPHONE
• Last number redial.
• Mute button.
• Available in 2 colours.
Was £29.99. SALE PRICE £14.99 HALF PRICE

AUDIOLINE AUR2 TELEPHONE
• On-hook dialling.
• Visual ring indicator.
• Last number redial.
Was £27.99. SALE PRICE £17.99 SAVE £10



MATSUI 200 SPEAKER PHONE
• 13 number memory.
• Hands free speaker phone.
Was £19.99. SALE PRICE £17.99 SAVE 10% LOWEST EVER PRICE

CORDLESS PHONES



BT FREESTYLE 80 CORDLESS PHONE
• Paging facility between base and handset.
• 10 number memory.
• Up to 100 metre range.
Was £59.99. SALE PRICE £54.99 SAVE £5

Betacom ROMA CORDLESS PHONE NEW
• 9 number memory.
• Visual ring indicator.
• Paging facility between base and handset.
Was £79.99. SALE PRICE £39.99

SOUTHWESTERN BELL 895 CORDLESS TELEPHONE WITH DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE
• Built-in answer machine.
• Intercom facility between base and handset.
Was £129.99. SALE PRICE £89.99 SAVE £40

BT FREESTYLE 1100 CORDLESS PHONE WITH DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE
• Intercom facility between base and handset.
• 10 number memory.
Was £99.99. SALE PRICE £94.99 SAVE £5

DIGITAL CORDLESS PHONES

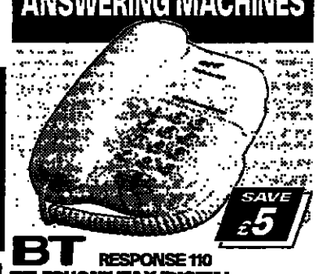


HAGENUK HOMEHANDY DIGITAL CORDLESS PHONE
• Digitally Enhanced Cordless Technology for excellent call quality.
• Up to 300 metre range.
• GAP compatible.
Was £129.99. SALE PRICE £119.99 SAVE £10 ADD UP TO 7 ADDITIONAL HANDSETS



BT DIVERSE 1010 DIGITAL CORDLESS PHONE
• Up to 360 minutes talktime/ 40 hours standby time.
• Paging facility between handsets.
Was £169.99. SALE PRICE £149.99 SAVE £10 ADD UP TO 5 ADDITIONAL HANDSETS

ANSWERING MACHINES



BT RESPONSE 110 TELEPHONE/FAX/DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE
• 15 minute recording time.
• Message counter.
• 10 number memory.
Was £39.99. SALE PRICE £34.99

BT RESPONSE 5 ANSWERING MACHINE
Remote access – so you can collect your messages wherever you are.
Was £29.99. SALE PRICE £24.99 SAVE £5

AUDIOLINE 925 TELEPHONE AND DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE
• 20 number memory.
• Fully digital – no need for tapes.
Was £59.99. SALE PRICE £39.99 SAVE £20

FAX MACHINES



Panasonic UFS1 TELEPHONE/FAX/DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE
• Automatic phone/fax switch.
• Integrated digital answering machine.
• 15 number memories.
• Call timer display.
Was £239.99. SALE PRICE £219.99

SAGEM COMPACT FAX MACHINE
Automatic phone/fax switch – use phone keypad to send fax.
Was £29.99. SALE PRICE £119.99 SAVE £10

PHILIPS HFC21 FAX MACHINE
• Automatic phone/fax switch.
• On-hook telephone dialling.
Was £179.99. Dixons Deal £159.99 SAVE £20

**PRICE – WE CAN'T BE BEATEN
Every week we check the prices of hundreds of products in the national press to make sure that Dixons Price Check prices can't be beaten. If you find the same product cheaper locally, please let us know immediately, we will be pleased to refund the difference. Just notify us within 7 days of purchase. The product must be new, complete and available for immediate delivery. Mail order prices excluded.

Dixons

There's a Great Deal going on

On-line shop: www.dixons.co.uk

Where a Sale saving is claimed the product has been offered for sale by Dixons at the higher (was) price for at least 18 consecutive days prior to the reduction*



NEW

New Effigy of the Queen

£5 for £5



Reserve NOW!

UK Legal tender

Diameter 38.61mm

• Simply Change £5 for £5
• First time 4 Effigies of a Reigning British Monarch
• Issued by the Royal Mint

Call now ☎ 0345 220033 or Fax 01892 517883
Please Quote 88583

MDM The Crown Collections Limited, P.O. Box 229, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 0AY Reg. No. 28 788 44

p&p free!

Official Order Form

New Customers Only!

YES, I am a new customer and would like to reserve the Queen's New Effigy £5 coin without commitment. I understand that MDM will ask for payment when the coin is due to be delivered at the face value issue price of £5. I will receive it on 10 days' approval (p&p free) during which time I may return it for a full refund. (Res No.49570–114)

Mr/Mrs/Miss: _____ 88583

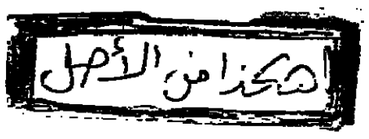
Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Tel No: _____

Send No Money Now!
Only one coin allowed per household. Issued in Autumn 1998. All reservations are subject to acceptance and status.

MDM
International Royal Mint Distributor
P.O. Box 229, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 0AY
The Crown Collections Limited

هكذا من الأصل



# Briton lost in waters of Crocodile River

**Sam Kiley** in Mpumalanga reports on the strange case of a man whose day out fishing ended in mystery

SHANNON DONALDSON leant back onto warm granite rocks alongside the spot where he had been swimming in the Crocodile River when his fishing companion, John Rimmer, a British businessman, disappeared last week.

"I don't fish at all. I don't hold with killing other creatures," he said. "Except humans. They can think for themselves."

The hollow beneath the weir at Krokodilpoort, where one of Mr Rimmer's sandals was found floating, is ideal for fishing. As the leaders of the apartheid regime's deaths squads, notably Eugene de Kock and Dirk Coetzee, also know, the Crocodile Gorge and its wooded sides provide cover for near-perfect crimes.

Coetzee, who confessed to killing a string of African National Congress activists, would shoot his victims, burn them on a pyre while he barbecued and drank near by, and throw their ashes into the Crocodile River.

De Kock, now serving 212 years for the murder of four other men a few yards from the pool where Mr Rimmer, 51, vanished, used the trees and steep hillsides to ambush his victims in a minibus. "I've got a mate, still in the police, he's based in Yeoville [a Johannesburg suburb]. He's got 15 or 16 kills to his name — all legitimate," muttered Mr Donaldson, a former soldier and policeman, as he peered down at the rapids where Mr Rimmer went missing and fingered the pistol at his side.

Mr Donaldson is now a security guard protecting white farmers from a crime wave which has claimed scores of lives in the last three years. Captain Sam Mabunda, of the South African Police Service, recognises that there is little evidence to indicate any foul play in the disappearance of Mr Rimmer or that Mr Donaldson and his other companions were anything other than innocent witnesses to an accident.



Rimmer: wanted to settle among orange groves

Little is known about Mr Rimmer. His passport indicates that he was born in Broadstairs, Kent, on December 27, 1946. He came to South Africa last September and soon met Clinton Barnard, owner of the Warthog Inn in White River, near Nelspruit, the nearest market town.

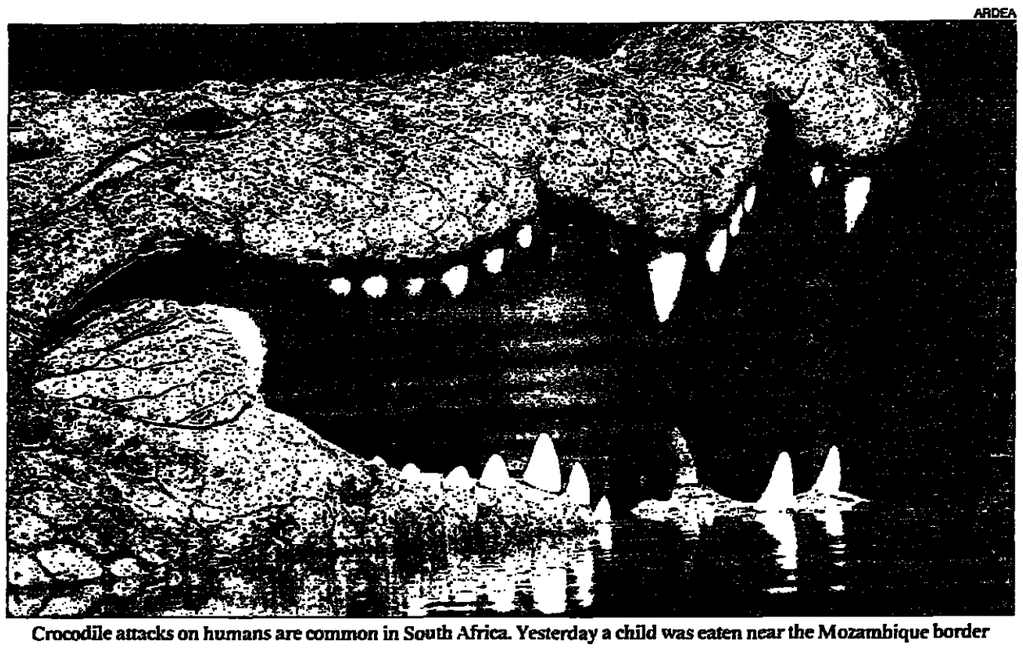
"He wanted to settle here. He never talked about any family," said Mr Barnard, who hosted Mr Rimmer at his lodge. The desire to settle in Mpumalanga is understandable. The mountainous region — etched with trout-filled streams — is perfumed with the smell of oranges in huge groves. But life is cheap. White farmers have been known to beat their staff to death. Local gangsters have netted tens of millions of rands in violent highway robberies of security vans in which the guards have been killed by the roadside.

A week ago yesterday Mr Rimmer went fishing with Mr Donaldson, Wynand Jacobs and Bushie Strydom. The four men drank heavily and barbecued some meat before the three South Africans plunged into the river to cool off with a swim down the rapids.

"I heard a scream, called the other guys, and we rushed back to the fire area. We could see nothing of the British guy, only one of his sandals in the water. We swam down two rapids to see if we could find him, but there was no trace — so we called the police," said Mr Strydom, an electrician from Nelspruit, 15 miles away. While local fishermen continued to angle for trout on Thursday, Captain Mabunda tested Mr Strydom's claim to have heard a "loud scream".

"We couldn't hear a thing above the sound of the waterfall weir," he said. Mr Donaldson and Mr Strydom shrugged off the death of their fishing buddy. "I didn't know him very well. He seemed pretty bored and said he only had to work three or four days a week, so we took him out," said Mr Donaldson.

ARDEA



Crocodile attacks on humans are common in South Africa. Yesterday a child was eaten near the Mozambique border

Attacks by crocodiles on human beings are not uncommon and yesterday a nine-year-old girl was eaten by one of the enormous reptiles as she played on the bank of a dam at a game lodge on the border with Mozambique. Police later shot the crocodile dead.

☐ **Potchefstroom:** A Scottish tourist, said to be in his thirties, was killed yesterday when the microlight aircraft he was flying crashed near Bloemhof airfield in north-western South Africa. *(AP)*

# Russia frees two British pilots who went astray

BY ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW AND EVE-ANN PRENTICE

TWO British pilots who were forced to land a small jet in the Russian Baltic enclave of Kaliningrad after straying into Russian airspace on Thursday were granted exit visas yesterday and told they could resume their flight.

Yevgeni Shcherbak, a spokesman for the Federal Security Service (FSB) in Kaliningrad, said that there would be no charges against the two men, Clive Davidson, 45, and Mark Jefferies, 40, who were flying to England from Estonia in a Czech-made L29 jet trainer.

"We accept that this was a purely accidental intrusion. There is no criminal case," Mr Shcherbak said. The plane had set off from the Estonian city of Tartu and made a refuelling stop in Kaunas, Lithuania, before heading for the Polish port of Gdansk.

But soon after crossing the Polish frontier the pilots encountered a strong headwind and decided they did not have enough fuel to reach their destination. They turned back towards Kaunas, but inadvertently drifted into Russian airspace, and two Sukhoi-27 fighters were scrambled and forced them to land.

He said the pilots were taking the plane to England for a British businessman who had bought it for a flying club. There has been a big opening up of the international market in Soviet bloc light aircraft, which are considerably cheaper than their Western counterparts.

Mr Jefferies is a former British aerobatic champion. He and his brother, John, run Yak UK, a business which imports and exports Russian Yak fighter aircraft from their farm at Little Gransden, near Sandy, Bedfordshire.

Mark Jefferies's wife, Cathy, also a pilot, said: "The first I knew about him being forced down was from one of our engineers here, and then on the radio news."


THE WINTER SALE

10th-24th JANUARY 1998

POLO RALPH LAUREN

143 NEW BOND STREET · LONDON W1
(0171) 491 4967



SALE

6 Months FREE Lowest Line Rental



£13.60

Free 20 minutes of calls per month
Free Itemised billing for life*
Free 6 months line rental in year two
Buy one, get one Free - free MX3000 mobile phone for friends or family
Free & fast delivery nationwide
14 day peace of mind promise

SAVE over £225.00

MX3000 was £99.99
NOW £4
FREE CAR CHARGER
FREE PROTECTIVE LEATHER CASE

ODYSSEY direct

Call our credit card mail order hotline FREE
0500 740 000

All credit cards accepted inc. Switch. Open Mon-Fri, 9am-7pm, Sat 10am-4.30pm

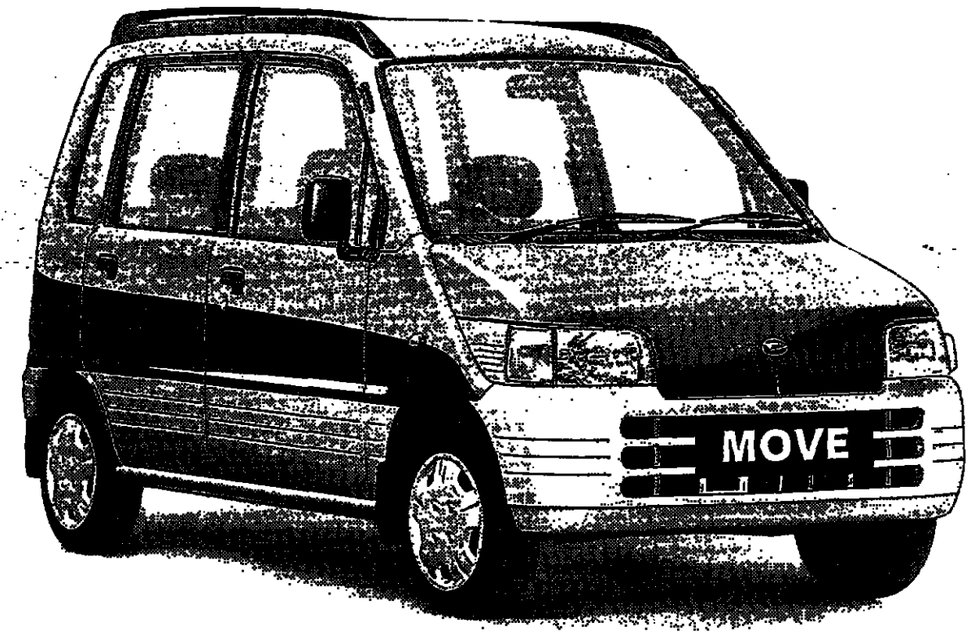
Connection charge £29.79 (£35 inc VAT); Monthly line rental £13.60 (£16.99 inc VAT); Free itemised billing for life*; Off-peak calls 10p inc VAT per minute; Peak calls 35p inc VAT per min.

vodafone

Head Office: Odyssey Corporation Plc, 15 Old Oak Common Lane, W3 7DA.



One little one.




Five hundred big ones.

The Daihatsu Move+ £8,200 on the road less

£500 Cash back*

The Daihatsu Move. Unique tall body design, driver's airbag, 5 doors, side impact bars and 4 seats which fully recline to make a double bed. All this plus 53.3 miles per gallon, a 3 year unlimited mileage warranty as standard and £500 cash back.

To take advantage of this great deal and fix a test drive, call 0800 618 618 now. £500 says you won't regret it.

| FROM £139 PER MONTH* (typical example – Daihatsu Move+ £8,200 On The Road) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| On The Road Price | Less £500 Cash back | Deposit** | First monthly payment*** |
| £8,200 | £7,700 | £1,500 | £199 |
| Followed by 35 monthly payments | Followed by final payment | Total amount payable | APR |
| £139 | £3,270 | £9,834 | 15.4% |

*Example includes a customer cash back of £500 which is signed over to the dealer. **Your deposit is payable on completion of the finance agreement. ***A £60 acceptance fee is included in the first payment. The figures are based on an agreed contract mileage of 6,000 miles pa.

THE MOVE DAIHATSU

CLEVER CARS FROM JAPAN

Price correct at time of going to press and includes number plates, delivery and 12 months' road fund licence. Customer cash back offer available until 28/2/98. Fuel Economy: Urban cycle 39.79mpg/Extra urban cycle 53.3mpg/Combined cycle 46.08mpg. Applicants for credit must be at least 18 and a UK resident (exc. Channel Islands and Isle of Man). Credit facilities are provided, subject to status, by Inchcape Financial Services Ltd.

# Big arms build-up alarms Israelis

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI and Palestinian leaders are preparing military plans that could transform the West Bank and Gaza Strip into a new Bosnia if the current peace talks fail.

The Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, flies to new rounds of negotiations in Washington this weekend. He and Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, are holding separate talks with President Clinton to rescue the peace process by securing further Israeli troop withdrawals.

On Wednesday, 30,000 Israelis demonstrated in Tel Aviv against the return of even one more acre of occupied land. The Hebrew press yesterday contained the first detailed account of the preparations, which include the Palestinian stockpiling of illegal anti-tank weaponry and Israeli army exercises to train for the costly retaking of the main cities now under Palestinian control.

Israeli army chiefs count the acquisition of anti-tank capability as the most disturbing aspect of the arms build-up, as tanks would be the main ace up Israel's sleeve in any attempt to retake cities with a level of casualties acceptable to the Israeli public.

Alongside the military preparations under way with the approval of Mr Arafat, who warned Derek Fatchett, the British Foreign Office minister, in the West Bank on Thursday that failure in the Washington talks could spark region-wide violence, the Palestinian Authority (PA) is strengthening its civil defences.

*Maariv*, the Israeli newspaper, said that contingency plans now being carried out include the boosting of Palestinian medical services, water reserves and preparations for electricity blackouts. "Sources in the security establishment emphasised that the PA does not at present have any motivation to initiate a violent struggle," the paper added. "Yet the sources claim that confrontations could break out on the streets, without the PA leadership reaching a decision."

NATI SHOHAT / REUTERS



A Jewish settler in Hebron confronts Palestinian youths on the first anniversary of Israeli troop redeployment

## WORLD SUMMARY

## Turkey outlaws Islamic party

**Istanbul:** Turkey's constitutional court outlawed the pro-Islamic Welfare Party on a charge of attempting to topple the secular nature of the state (Andrew Finkel writes). The decision means Necmettin Erbakan, 72, the partyleader, will be stripped of his membership of parliament and debarred from taking part in any political party for five years. Mr Erbakan denounced the ruling as a "legal mistake".

Britain, which holds the European Union presidency, voiced concern "at the implications for democratic pluralism" and said it would consult its EU partners.

## Holocaust decision due

**Paris:** A court was last night deciding whether to hand down a jail sentence, fines or an acquittal to Roger Garaudy, 84, a French intellectual who claims the Holocaust has been exaggerated (Ben Macintyre writes). The Gayssot Law, which makes querying or minimising Nazi genocide illegal, has been attacked for curbing free speech.

## Montserrat aid 'delayed'

**London:** David Brandt, Chief Minister of Montserrat, accused Britain of delaying aid for the volcano-striken Caribbean island (Michael Binyon writes). He alleged it was part of a "calculated plan" to drive residents away. The Government was being very slow to follow through on promises to build houses and to help small businesses, he said.

## Morocco honours Ali

**Rabat:** King Hassan II has awarded Muhammad Ali, the former heavyweight boxing champion, right, with the order of the Commander of the Arch, one of Morocco's top honours. During a ceremony here, Mr Ali also received a cassette recording of the Koran. Mr Ali arrived earlier this week to attend religious ceremonies in celebration of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month. *(AP)*



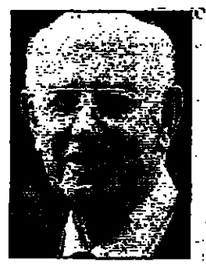
## Cuba trade waiver stays

**Washington:** In advance of the Pope's Cuba visit next week, President Clinton has bowed once more to pressure from European allies and signed another six-month waiver denying Americans the right under the 1996 Helms-Burton Act to sue foreign companies which trade with Havana.

## Bugging back in Germany

**Bonn:** The German parliament narrowly passed a Bill allowing police to bug suspected criminals for the first time in post-Second World War Germany, despite protests from civil liberties' groups, restoring eavesdropping powers banned since the Nazi era. *(Reuters)*

## Botha to face black judge



**Cape Town:** The 82-year-old former South African President, P.W. Botha, left, will face a black magistrate, Victor Lugaju, when he is charged for defying an order to testify before the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a court official said. Mr Lugaju, chief magistrate of Western Cape regional court, will preside at Mr Botha's first appearance next Friday in George, near his Cape coast home. *(Reuters)*

## 'Holy' heifer fails test

**Jerusalem:** White hairs have been spotted on the tail of Melody, earlier thought to be the first pure red heifer born in the Holy Land in two millennia. According to Jewish writings, the ashes of a red heifer are required to purify Jews before they can enter the Temple in Jerusalem. *(AP)*


INTEREST FREE OPTION** ON A WIDE RANGE OF KITCHEN APPLIANCES

THE COMET PRICE index

YOU CAN'T BUY BETTER
- Lowest sale prices guaranteed
- Over 100 of our best selling top brand products
- In the national newspapers every Saturday
- Updated daily on Teletext Channel 4 p425

BUY NOW PAY UP TO 1999* ON A WIDE RANGE OF TVs, VIDEOS & CAMCORDERS

SALE NOW ON PLUS SAVE UP TO £150 WITH EXTRA VOUCHER OFFERS

COMET
COMET IS THE BIGGEST OUT-OF-TOWN ELECTRICAL RETAILER, SO THERE'S BOUND TO BE A STORE NEAR YOU
For local store details phone free on 0800 425 425. Visit our web-site at: www.comet.co.uk

THE COMET PRICE CANNOT BE BEATEN
EASY WAYS TO PAY
MONEY BACK WARRANTY
AWARD-WINNING PRODUCTS

29.9% APR



SWIFTCALL | 0800 769 0800
www.swiftcall.com

TALK IS CHEAP!

Swiftcall customers receive 10% Discount on calls in Dec & Jan!

low cost international calls

| Calls to | Swiftcall | | B.T. | SAVE |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| USA | 7p | Vs | 24p | 71% |
| India | 45p | Vs | £1.20 | 62% |
| Ireland | 11p | Vs | 22p | 50% |
| Japan | 18p | Vs | 77p | 76% |
| OZ/NZ | 18p | Vs | 49p | 63% |
| Hong Kong | 27p | Vs | 58p | 53% |
| Nigeria | 72p | Vs | £1.05 | 31% |

Call us today free on 0800 769 0800 for details on fantastic savings to hundreds of other destinations and how to open your pre-paid account.

هكذا من الإصل



# British carrier to aid US against Saddam

BRITAIN yesterday ordered the aircraft carrier *HMS Invincible* to leave immediately from the eastern Mediterranean to join two American carrier battle groups in the Gulf because of the latest confrontation with President Saddam Hussein.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, made it clear that the Government was ready to use force if diplomacy failed to persuade the Iraqi leader to drop his obstruction of the United Nations arms inspections.

Iraq claimed victory over the United States as the team of American-led weapons inspectors left Baghdad a day early after twice being denied access to suspect sites. Scott Ritter, the leader of the UN team, insisted they were not surrendering to Iraqi pressure. "We will be back," the US Marine Corps captain said. America, which has a nuclear-powered attack submarine, *USS Olympia*, armed with Tomahawk cruise missiles, in the Red Sea as well as two carriers, *USS Nimitz* and *USS George Washington* in the Gulf, ruled out any response until Richard Butler, the executive director of the UN Special Commission (Unscom), returns from a trip to Baghdad next week.

> Baghdad is trying to impose conditions that will be resisted

Iraq's *Al Thawra* newspaper said: "Despite American threats and its military build-up, our confidence is deepening because the result of the historical showdown will be a defeat for the American aggression and a comprehensive and final victory for Iraq."

*HMS Invincible* was off Cyprus when she received a signal to steam to the Gulf shortly after Mr Robertson announced the decision in a Commons written answer yesterday morning. The carrier, which is commanded by Captain James Burnell-Nugent and equipped with eight Sea Harriers, six RAF Harrier GR7s and 11 Sea King helicopters, will take a week to reach the Gulf, via the Suez Canal.

The deployment followed consultations between London and Washington. In November, when the Iraqi leader came to verbal exchanges with American inspectors and the UN team withdrew from Baghdad, Britain sent *HMS Invincible* from the Caribbean to the Mediterranean, where she was on standby for the Gulf.

This time, Mr Robertson said, the carrier was being sent to the Gulf as a contingency and would be accompanied by the Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel *Fort Victoria*. *HMS Invincible* is due to be replaced by *HMS Illustrious* in about six weeks and, if the present alert status is maintained, Britain will have two carriers in the Gulf area during the handover period, which are both equipped with Royal Navy and RAF Harriers.

*HMS Illustrious* will leave from Portsmouth on Monday, but will need several weeks of training and preparation before heading for the Gulf.

Mr Robertson said: "Iraq continues to obstruct the work of Unscom, whose purpose is to ensure that Iraq cannot again threaten its neighbours with weapons of mass destruction.

"The United Kingdom is working with other members of the Security Council to secure Iraq's co-operation through diplomatic means. But, if these efforts fail, we may need to consider other measures, including the use of force."

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, who is in Washington to meet Madeleine Albright, the American Secretary of State, joined her in demanding that Iraq should allow unconditional access to UN weapons inspectors. He said: "Saddam Hussein must accept the return of the Unscom inspectors without conditions. He is now attempting to impose conditions that cannot be accepted and will be resisted."

He hoped the decision to send *HMS Invincible* to the Gulf would be seen in Baghdad "as a clear signal of our resolve and that no option is ruled out by the world community in our determination to stop Saddam Hussein obtaining weapons of mass destruction".

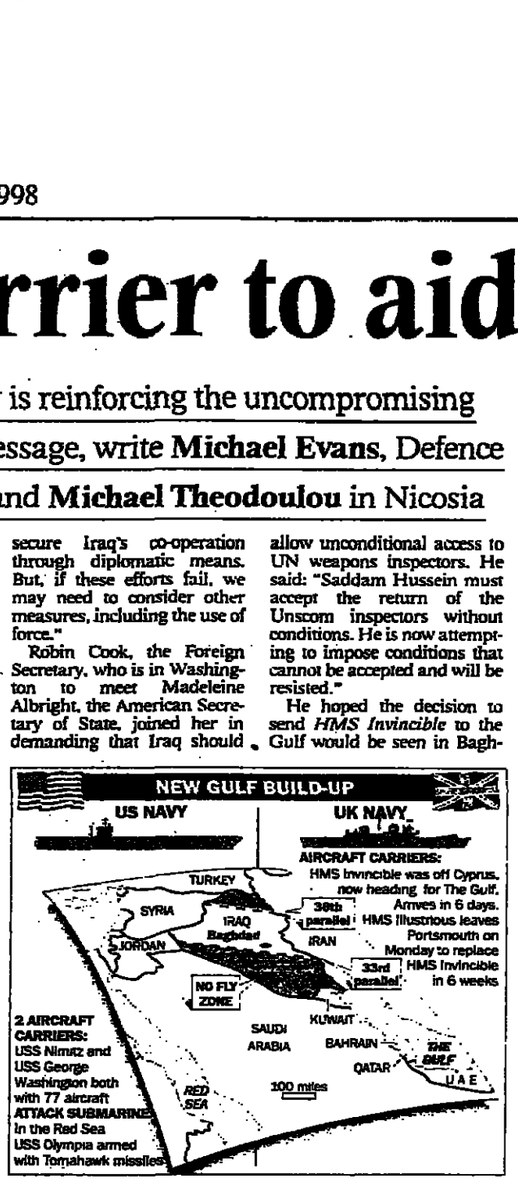
The Pentagon last night welcomed the despatch of the Royal Navy carrier to the Gulf. The Navy already has two warships in the region, *HMS Coventry*, a frigate, and *HMS Nottingham*, a destroyer.

The Pentagon said that President Clinton was firmly committed to a robust military presence in the region for as long as necessary to ensure Iraqi compliance with UN mandates.

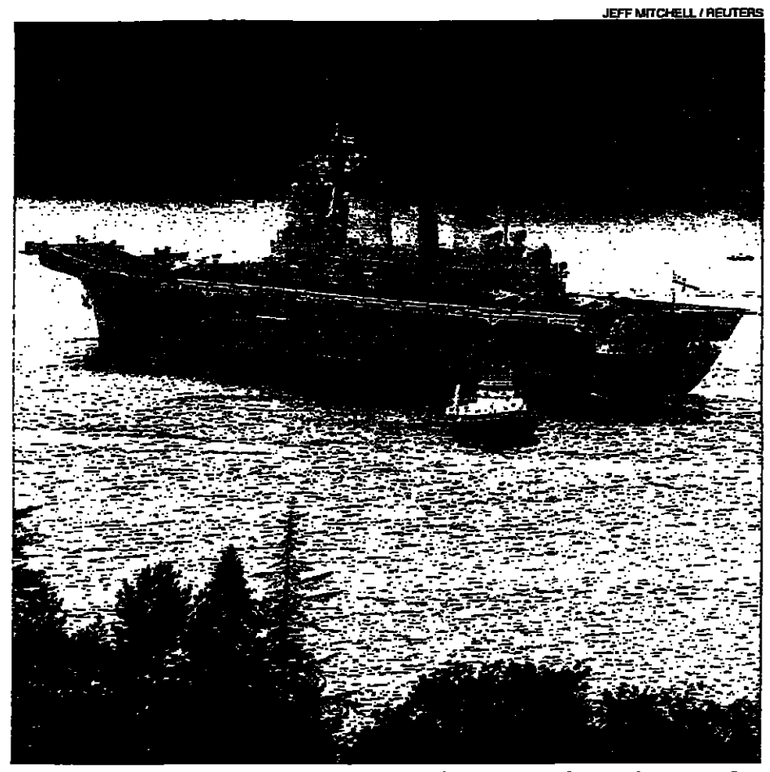
Mr Ritter's team had managed to conduct inspections for just one day when Baghdad withdrew co-operation on the ground that it was dominated by American and British members whose governments were seeking to prolong sanctions against Iraq. France and Russia are now offering to provide more inspectors.

☐ **Tehran:** Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, yesterday rejected any ties or talks with America. He said that it would be harmful to Iran's independence and to Islamic movements around the world.

On This Day, page 24




JEFF MITCHELL / REUTERS



*HMS Invincible*, which carries Harrier aircraft, will join an impressive array of American power in the Gulf. Britain says force will be used if diplomacy fails

# EU official rules out Algiers link to killings

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A SENIOR European Commissioner said yesterday he was convinced that the Algerian Government was not involved in the recent series of massacres.

"My personal feeling is there is no involvement on the part of the Government vis-à-vis what is happening, no responsibility at all," Manuel Marín, responsible for EU relations with the southern Mediterranean and Middle East, said in Brussels. "I am deeply convinced of that."

Señor Marín will join three junior ministers from Britain, Austria and Luxembourg on the EU's two-day mission to Algiers that starts on Monday. He said there was a need to open a dialogue with the authorities. British officials said the troika mission was going to listen to what the Algerians had to say.

Hubert Védrine, the French Foreign Minister, reassured President Zeroual's military-backed Government that Europe could not assist the Algerians against their wishes: "This is not an investigation but a fact-finding mission."

Benita Ferrero-Waldner, the Austrian minister in the troika, said the delegation would raise humanitarian questions. It would also meet representatives of the "legal" opposition.


16/11 1997 16:00 FAX : 00897276157668 006

FRONTERA ROUND THE WORLD CHALLENGE

FAX TRANSMISSION

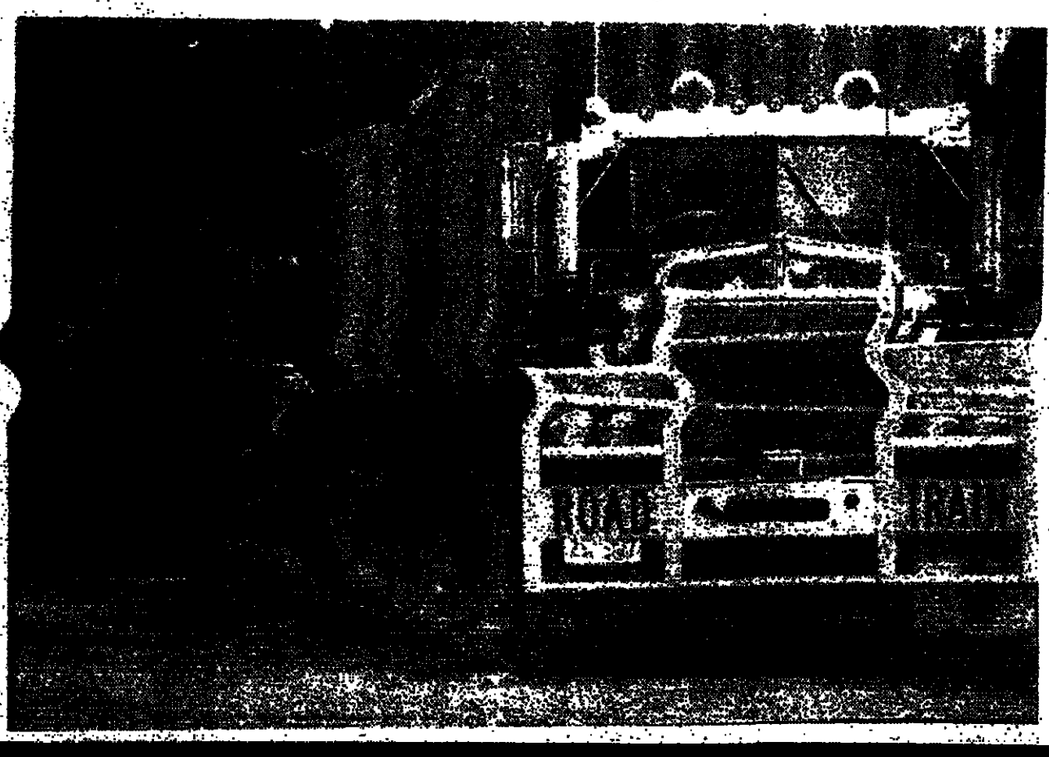
Sender: frontera_challenge team
From: Mobile onboard fax transmitter
To: odesseyint@sesnq.com.swilliams@[illegible]

From: Mobile onboard
To: odesseyint@sesnq.com.swilliams@[illegible]
odesseyint@sesnq.com.swilliams@lhs.co.uk.tam
[illegible] nengland@fast.com;
dwilliams@newsint/tymes.co.uk;bking@tnte-
mail.com;R>George@fenna/London.org;
psimons@bri.co.uk.jcampbell@deadend.com;e-

Date: 16th November 1997
Time: 16.00 GMT/ 03.00 local
Position: 500 miles west of Sydney

**An Australian version of a Give Way sign: 22 tons of metal travelling at 90mph.**

Temperatures have topped 40°C in the desert around Alice Springs, so we'd be cooking inside the Frontera if it wasn't for the air con. The good news is the lack of speed restrictions in the Northern Territories. It means we're right on target, having covered 4,900 miles in just 3 days and 17 hours. But the scariest things on the highway are these bloody enormous 'road trains', 200 foot long articulated lorries which are straight out of Mad Max. Get into a fight with one of those and it's goodbye World Challenge. Thank God we're only 500 miles from the end of this leg.



THE FRONTERA FROM VAUXHALL

The Frontera World Challenge was completed on December 11th 1997. See a different world with Frontera, contact 0345 [illegible] or visit our website at www.vauxhall.co.uk



# Discover Iceland ... for free

Just imagine it, you and 200 other adventurers sipping a cold G&T in a geothermal hot pool, after a tough days trekking in spectacular volcanic scenery.

After that, you settle down into your sleeping bag, under the stars.

Except there aren't any. It's midnight and broad daylight. It's Iceland, in the summer of 1998.

Think you can survive 9 days trekking through a stunning but demanding landscape?

Can you handle the inevitable end of tour party, in Europe's liveliest city Reykjavik? (It can't help but go on till daylight.)

Are you free this August? Then, so is this incredible trip.

You'll raise money for children who can't walk, and for whom getting out of the front door is a major expedition.

So this summer don't sit home watching The Holiday Show, come and experience the real thing. Call for an information pack and application form on 0990 112212.

Whizz-kidz

THE MOVEMENT FOR NON-MOBILE CHILDREN
Registered Charity No. 802872



After years of abuse from critics, Ted Hughes tells

# The literary that turned





## Poet Laureate breaks decades of silence



**Erica Wagner** reports on a startling new book in which Hughes confronts the pain of his past

FOR 30 years, Ted Hughes has been both one of Britain's greatest writers and one of its most reviled. While his art has given him greatness, the suicides of two of the women closest to him has brought him hatred and abuse, particularly from critics who considered his first wife, Sylvia Plath, to be both ruined genius and helpless victim.

Until now, Hughes has endured the assaults in silence. Today *The Times* reveals for the first time that the Poet Laureate has written an intense and extraordinary poetic account of his days with Plath. The poems below, with those that we will publish over the coming week, set out the unknown side of the 20th century's most tragic literary love story.

The two met in Cambridge in 1956 and married that same year. During their time together, Hughes published his first two books of poetry, *The Hawk in the Rain* and *Lupercal*, establishing himself as a rising literary star; Plath published her first book of poems, *The Colossus*, and — under a pseudonym — *The Bell Jar*, the autobiographical novel which charted her earlier descent into madness. They lived first in Cambridge before going, for two years, to Plath's native Massachusetts to teach. They returned to Britain in 1959. In 1963 Plath, newly separated from Hughes and having completed the *Ariel* poems that she knew would make her name, laid her head on a cloth in a gas oven and passed into myth.

Since her death — and the suicide five years later of the woman for whom he left Plath — critics and biographers have fought in fierce debate, awarding credit and apportioning blame. Hughes has protected their two children, Frieda and Nicholas, and kept his own counsel. Now, in a book of poems which he dedicates to them, he at last allows the story as he saw it, as he lived it, to reach the light of day.

*Birthday Letters* is strongly narrative, and takes the poet from his first sight of his future wife — in a photograph — to the time of mourning and reflection that followed her death. Never has Hughes revealed his whole tale, his whole heart, in such a way. Never was he even expected to.





Sylvia Plath at the beach in Massachusetts in 1954, the year after her first suicide attempt. Throughout her life, she attempted to maintain a facade of popularity and easy achievement

Plath, left, in September 1940, dressed to help the nurse who was caring for her father. He died soon afterwards. Right, her Smith College graduation photograph, 1955

## Fulbright Scholars

# The first glimpse

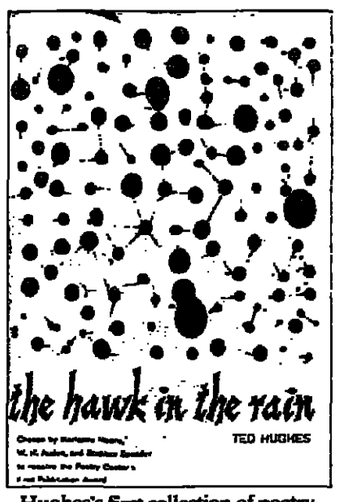
The sequence begins in 1955, when Plath arrived as an exotic American migrant in dreary postwar England. She had just graduated from Smith College in Massachusetts and won a Fulbright Scholarship to study at Cambridge University. When she arrived, she seemed full of hope for her future. "I feel that, after I put down roots here, I shall be happier than ever before," she wrote to her mother, Aurelia, in October, "since a golden promise hovers in the air along the Cam and in the quaint crooked streets . . ."

*Hughes had, by that time, already left the university, with a degree in English and anthropology, and was working at odd jobs. But he often returned to Cambridge because of his friendships there, and his links with student literary magazines. Fulbright Scholars, the first poem in the book, offers his first glimpse, in memory, of the woman who would become his wife.*

Where was it, in the Strand? A display
Of news items, in photographs.
For some reason I noticed it.
A picture of that year's intake
Of Fulbright Scholars. Just arriving –
Or arrived. Or some of them.
Were you among them? I studied it,
Not too minutely, wondering
Which of them I might meet.
I remember that thought. Not
Your face. No doubt I scanned particularly
The girls. Maybe I noticed you,
*Maybe I weighed you up, feeling unlikely.*
Noted your long hair, loose waves –
Your Veronica Lake bang. Not what it hid.
It would appear blond. And your grin.
Your exaggerated American
Grin for the cameras, the judges, the strangers, the frighteners.
Then I forgot. Yet I remember
The picture: the Fulbright Scholars.
With their luggage? It seems unlikely.
Could they have come as a team? I was walking
Sore-footed, under hot sun, hot pavements.
Was it then I bought a peach? That's as I remember.
From a stall near Charing Cross Station.
It was the first fresh peach I had ever tasted.
I could hardly believe how delicious.
At twenty-five I was dumbfounded afresh
By my ignorance of the simplest things.




**The autobiographical novel, first published under a pseudonym, that charted Plath's earlier descent into madness in the early 1950s**




**Hughes's first collection of poetry, which established his literary reputation, was published in 1957, the year after his marriage**

## St Botolph's

# Bite left tooth-marks on his cheek

In February 1956, a new Cambridge literary magazine was launched. Hughes was one of the editors and contributors to *The St Botolph's Review*, along with an American friend of Plath's, E. Lucas Myers, who is referred to in the poem.

It was in the pages of the *Review* that Plath first came across Hughes's work. She was determined to meet "that big, dark, hunky boy", as she called him in her diary, and learnt through a friend that a party to celebrate the magazine's publication would be held at the Women's Union in Falcon Yard.

Their meeting there is now part of literary legend, fuelled by her relation — which does not quite tally with his — of the drama of the encounter. Though he was with a girlfriend — the "loaded crossbow" of the poem — the attraction was mutual and immediate.

She quoted his poetry back at him, he mentioned his girlfriend and then "I was stamping and he was stamping on the floor, and then he kissed me bang smash on the mouth and ripped my hair band off, my lovely red hairband scarf . . . and my favourite silver earrings: hah, I shall keep, he barked. And when he kissed my neck, I bit him long and hard on the cheek and, when we came out of the room, blood was running down his face," *she confided to her diary.*

Here is Hughes's first glimpse, close up, of Plath's vitality and force. The scar to which he refers was the relic of her suicide attempt in 1953.

Our magazine was merely an overture
To the night and the party. I had predicted
Disastrous expense: a planetary
Certainty, according to Prospero's book.
Jupiter and the full moon conjunct
Opposed Venus. Disastrous expense
According to that book. Especially for me.
The conjunction combust my natal Sun.
Venus pinned exact on my mid-heaven.
For a wait-and-see astrologer – so what?
Touch of a bat's wing easily exorcised.
Our Chaucer would have stayed at home with his Dante.
Locating the planets more precisely,
He would have pondered it deeper. What else? I left it
For serious astrologers to worry
That conjunction, conjunct my Sun, conjunct
With your natal ruling Mars. And Chaucer
Would have pointed to that day's Sun in the Fish
Conjunct your Ascendant exactly
Opposite my Neptune and fixed
In my tenth House of good and evil fame.
Our Chaucer, I think, would have sighed.
He would have assured us, shaking his sorrowful head,
That day the solar system married us
Whether we knew it or not.
Falcon Yard:
Girl-friend like a loaded crossbow. The sound-waves
Jammed and torn by Joe Lyde's Jazz. The hall
Like the tilting deck of the *Titanic*:
A silent film, with that blare over it. Suddenly –
Lucas engineered it – suddenly you.
First sight. First snapshot isolated
Unalterable, stilled in the camera's glare.
Taller
Than ever you were again. Swaying so slender
It seemed your long, perfect, American legs
Simply went on up. That flaring hand,
Those long, balletic, monkey-elegant fingers.
And the face – a tight ball of joy.
I see you there, clearer, more real
Than in any of the years in its shadow –
As if I saw you that once, then never again.
The loose fall of hair – *that floppy curtain*
Over your face, over your scar. And your face
A rubbery ball of joy
Round the African-lipped, laughing, thickly
Crimson-painted mouth. And your eyes
Squeezed in your face, a crush of diamonds,
Incredibly bright, bright as a crush of tears
That might have been tears of joy, a squeeze of joy.
You meant to knock me out
With your vivacity. I remember
Little from the rest of that evening.
I slid away with my girl-friend. Nothing
Except her hissing rage in a doorway
And my stupefied interrogation
Of your blue headscarf from my pocket
And the swelling ring-moat of tooth-marks
That was to brand my face for the next month.
The me beneath it for good.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



Ted Hughes

ran

ne

his cheek

his own story of his marriage to Sylvia Plath

# love affair to tragedy






An autobiographical scrapbook Plath compiled while she was at high school and, left, the Smith College student in 1954.

Below, a sketch by Plath of a tabac in Paris. She went to Paris soon after she met Hughes, to see her boyfriend, Richard Sassoon. But by the time she arrived, Sassoon had gone. When she returned to London, she began her affair with Hughes






## TED HUGHES

**1930:** born August 17 to William Henry Hughes and Edith Farrar Hughes, the youngest of three children, in Mytholmroyd, West Yorkshire
**1938:** family moves to Mexborough, South Yorkshire, where he attended grammar school
**1948:** wins Open Exhibition to Pembroke College, Cambridge; does two years' national service in the RAF before going up
**1954:** leaves Cambridge with a degree in English and anthropology; works at various jobs while writing — as a nightwatchman, rose gardener and for the film company J. Arthur Rank — but continues to visit Cambridge
**1956:** meets Sylvia Plath on February 25 at *St Botolph's* party: they are married on June 16. While she completes her second Fulbright year, he teaches in a secondary modern school in Cambridge
**1957:** publication of first book of poems, *The Hawk in the Rain*; it wins the First Publication Award in New York that year, judged by Stephen Spender, W.H. Auden and Marianne Moore. He and Plath move to America. While she is teaching at Smith, he teaches at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst
**1959:** the Hugheses return to England
**1960:** his second book of poems, *Lupercal*, is published; he is awarded the Somerset Maugham Award and the following year the book wins the Hawthornden Prize
**1962:** Hughes and Plath separate in October

Ted Hughes remarried, to Carol Orchard, in 1970. He was awarded the OBE in 1977 and created Poet Laureate on December 19, 1984.

## SYLVIA PLATH

**1932:** born October 27 in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts, to Aurelia and Otto Plath
**1940:** Otto Plath, the "Daddy" that appears obsessively in her work, dies as a result of diabetes
**1950:** goes to Smith College on a scholarship
**1953:** summer internship at summer internship at *Mademoiselle* in New York following the publication of her prize-winning story, *Sunday at the Mintons*, in that magazine; first suicide attempt on August 24 at home




**1955:** graduation from Smith, with prizes for her poetry; in October begins first year on Fulbright Scholarship at Newnham College, Cambridge
**1956:** meets and marries Ted Hughes
**1957:** returns to America with Hughes, teaches at Smith for half a year and attends poetry classes given by Robert Lowell; for the next two years works and writes poetry, travels restlessly across America with Hughes
**1959:** returns to England with Hughes in December
**1960:** daughter, Frieda Rebecca, born at home on April 1; in October her first book of poems, *The Colossus*, is published in England
**1961:** completes autobiographical novel, *The Bell Jar*; moves to Devon in August as one of final attempts to find a place where they can settle down
**1962:** son, Nicholas Farrer, is born on January 17; *The Colossus* is published in the United States in May
**1963:** *The Bell Jar* is published under a pseudonym, Victoria Lucas, in England; Plath commits suicide on February 11

## 18 Rugby Street

# Scar from the past warned: stay clear

Through February and March of 1956, Plath grew more attracted to Hughes. When she heard he had returned to Cambridge on March 10, "a huge joy galloped through me". In the spring she went to London to meet him and Myers; Hughes was living in a flat in Rugby Street, north of Gray's Inn.

Plath was on her way to Paris to meet her lover, Richard Sassoon, a distant relative of Siegfried. Although Sassoon had begun to distance himself from her, she resolved to visit him in Paris. By the time she arrived, he had gone. Hughes refers to her quest in "the desperation of that search/ Through those following days".

In writing of his first sexual encounter with Plath, he refers again to her scar and to "a long poem about a black panther": *Pursuit*, a piece in the style of William Blake, which she wrote soon after their first meeting. "It is not bad," she noted in her journal for February 27. "It is dedicated to Ted Hughes."

So there in Number Eighteen Rugby Street's
Victorian torpor and squalor I waited for you.
I think of that house as a stage-set –
Four floors exposed to the auditorium.
On all four floors, in, out, the love-struggle
In all its acts and scenes, a snakes and ladders
Of intertangling and of disentangling
*Limbs and loves and lives. Nobody was old.*
An unmysterious laboratory of amours.
Perpetual performance – names of the actors altered,
But never the parts. They told me: 'You
Should write a book about this house. It's possessed!
Whoever comes into it never gets properly out!
Whoever enters it enters a labyrinth –
A Knossos of coincidence! And now you're in it.'
The legends were amazing. I listened, amazed.

I lived alone. Sat alone
At the hacked, archaic, joiner's bench
That did for desk and table,
And waited for you and Lucas.
Whatever I was thinking I was not thinking
Of that Belgian girl in the ground-floor flat,
Plump as a mushroom, hair black as boot polish:
The caged bird and extra-marital cuddle
Of the second-hand-car dealer who kept
The catacomb basement heaped with exhaust mufflers,
Assorted jagged shards of cars, shin-rippers
On the way to the unlit and unlovely
Lavatory beneath the street's pavement.
*That girl had nothing to do with the rest of the house*
But play her part in the drama. Her house-jailor
Who kept her in solitary was a demon
High-explosive, black, insane Alsatian
That challenged through the chained crack of the door
Every entrance and exit. He guarded her,
For the car-dealer, from all, too well finally.
Not, seven years in the future, from her gas-oven.
She was nothing to do with me. Nor was Susan
Who still had to be caught in the labyrinth,
And who would meet the Minotaur there,
*And would be holding me from my telephone*
Those nights you would most need me. On this evening
Nothing could make me think I would ever be needed
By anybody. Ten years had to darken,
Three of them in your grave, before Susan
Could pace that floor above night after night
(Where you and I, the new rings big on our fingers,
Had warmed our wedding night in the single bed)
Crying alone and dying of leukaemia.

Lucas was bringing you. You were pausing
A night in London on your escape to Paris.
April 13th, your father's birthday. A Friday.
I guessed you were off to whirl through some euphoric
American Europe. Years after your death
I learned the desperation of that search
Through those following days, scattering your tears
*Around the cobbles of Paris. I deferred for a night*
Your panics, your fevers, your worst fear –
The toad-stone in the head of your desolation.
The dream you hunted for, the life you begged
To be given again, you would never recover, ever.
Your journal told me the story of your torture.
I guess how you visited each of your sacred shrines
In raging faith you'd catch him there, somehow,
By clairvoyance, by coincidence –
Normally child's play to a serious passion.
This was not the last time it would fail you.
Meanwhile there was me, for a few hours –
A few pence on the fare, for insurance.
Happy to be martyred for folly
I invoked you, bribing Fate to produce you.
Were you conjuring me? I had no idea
How I was becoming necessary,
Or what emergency surgery Fate would make
Of my casual self-service. I can hear you
Climbing the bare stairs, alive and close,
Babbling to be overheard, breathless.
That was your artillery, to confuse me:
Before coming over the top in your panoply
You wanted me to hear your panting. Then –
Blank. How did you enter? What came next?
How did Lucas delete himself, for instance?
Did we even sit? A great bird, you
Surged in the plumage of your excitement,
Raving exhilaration. A blueish voltage –
Fluorescent cobalt, a flare of aura
That I later learned was yours uniquely.
And your eyes' peculiar brightness, their oddness,
Two little brown people, hooded, Prussian,
But elvish, and girlish, and sparking
With the pressure of your effervescence.
Were they your family heirlooms, as in your son?
For me yours were the novel originals.
And now at last I got a good look at you.
Your roundy face, that your friends, being objective,
Called 'rubbery' and you, crueller, 'boneless':
A device for elastic extremes,
A spirit mask transfigured every moment
In its own séance, its own ether.
And I became aware of the mystery

Of your lips, like nothing before in my life,
Their aboriginal thickness. And of your nose,
Broad and Apache, nearly a boxer's nose,
Scorpio's obverse to the Semitic eagle
That made every camera your enemy,
The jailor of your vanity, the traitor
In your Sexual Dreams Incorporated,
*Nose from Attila's horde: a prototype face*
That could have looked up at me through the smoke
Of a Navajo campfire. And your small temples
Into which your hair-roots crowded, upstaged
By that glamourous, fashionable bang.
And your little chin, your Pisces chin.
It was never a face in itself. Never the same.
It was like the sea's face – a stage
For weathers and currents, the sun's play and the moon's.
Never a face until that final morning
When it became the face of a child – it's scar
Like a Maker's flaw. But now you declaimed
A long poem about a black panther
While I held you and kissed you and tried to keep you
From flying about the room. For all that,
You would not stay.

We walked south across London to Fetter Lane
And your hotel. Opposite the entrance
On a bombsite becoming a building site
We clutched each other giddily
For safety and went in a barrel together
Over some Niagara. Falling
In the roar of soul your scar told me –
Like its secret name, or its password –
How you had tried to kill yourself. And I heard
Without ceasing for a moment to kiss you
As if a sober star had whispered it
Above the revolving, rumbling city: stay clear.

A poltroon of a star. I cannot remember
How I smuggled myself, wrapped in you,
Into the hotel. There we were.
You were slim and lithe and smooth as a fish.
You were a new world. My new world.
So this is America, I marvelled.
Beautiful, beautiful, America!

© Ted Hughes, 1998. Extracted from BIRTHDAY LETTERS by Ted Hughes published by Faber and Faber Ltd. at £14.99 on 29 January 1998 It is available to Times readers now by calling the Times Bookshop on 0990 134 459

# ITV comedy: it's no laughing matter

GILL ALLEN



David Liddiment: takes comedy revival seriously

American system is the big hope for solving British sitcom crisis, **Carol Midgley** reports

AMERICA'S system of producing wisecracking comedies such as *Friends* and *Frasier* is to be copied by ITV in an attempt to produce new, adult British shows and end the industry's "sitcom crisis".

*David Liddiment, ITV's* new director of programmes, is to introduce shows by teams of scriptwriters, and give series longer runs of up to 12 episodes to give more time for the characters to grow on audiences. He will also schedule them after the 9pm watershed to compete with traditional BBC comedy slots inhabited by successful shows such as *Men Behaving Badly* and *Blackadder*.

The move is an attempt to end ITV's reputation as a sitcom graveyard, and to convince advertisers that it will arrest the audience decline of recent years. ITV had only two shows in the top 30 sitcoms of 1997: *Holding the Baby* and *Blind Men*. The shows, and ITV's *Faith in the Future*, averaged 5.9 million viewers each episode — the smallest audience on record for peak-time sitcoms.

Critics point to a terminal decay in British sitcom production, citing the fact that repeats of the BBC's 25-year-old *Last of the Summer Wine* were the second most watched comedies of last year, and that reruns of *Are You Being Served?*, which started in 1973, are developing a cult audience on Saturdays. This shows, they say, that little new material of comparable quality is coming through.

Mr Liddiment said: "ITV has recognised it will never be able to compete with the BBC because we are a commercial broadcaster and cannot take as many risks. But we are trying to break the deadlock."

He said he was trying the new approach to achieve "fast-track audience familiarity". In Britain, sitcoms series of six episodes can take up to three years to click with the audience. But ITV does not have the luxury of time. With ever more channels available, broadcasters would have to get faster hits to keep audiences, Mr Liddiment said. In America, where teams of ten writers produce up to 22 episodes a year, audiences take to shows more quickly.

ITV, he said, would not have such big teams, but more than one writer would script episodes and be responsible for certain characters, as with soap operas. "The US is developing all kind of tricks and, before long, we are going to have to try some of them."

Terry Hughes, former director of *The Two Ronnies* and *Ripping Yarns*, left Britain 18 years ago for America, where he directed *The Golden Girls*, *Friends*, and now *Third Rock from the Sun*. He said: "The idea of longer runs is very good. Shows take a while to find a voice and for the characters to evolve. "They are going to have to start working with teams the American way. It will take a long time to restructure and there will be resistance to it, but you can't do six episodes and expect to grab an audience right away."

Barry Took, the veteran broadcaster and comedy writer, said ITV's best-remembered shows were *Rising Damp* and *Duty Free*, both from the 1970s. "The problem now is the people who run ITV and the BBC have very little experience of comedy. That is not to denigrate them, they just don't have the expertise and the instinct. *Drop the Dead Donkey* was hanging around the BBC for two years before the writers got fed up and took it to Channel 4. If you want good comedy, you have to go to the talent and ask their advice."

*Fawlty Towers*, now regarded as a priceless gem, achieved audiences of only 1.5 million during its first run in 1975. *Rising Damp* pulled in respectable audiences of about 10 million when it was launched in 1974, but it was not considered a particular classic then. Two other sitcoms, *The Gaffer* and *Tom, Dick and Harriet*, now forgotten, had ratings of about 18 million.

Geoffrey Perkins, a successful comedy producer, became the BBC's head of comedy two years ago, and is described as a "formidable opponent" for ITV. He said: "Historically, pretty well every sitcom you can remember as the genre at its best has been on the BBC, except for *Men Behaving Badly*, which was originally at ITV before being dropped after one run.

"It has been quite hard for ITV. A lot of our most successful comedies, like *One Foot* and *Men Behaving Badly*, have been screened after 9pm. It is difficult to see how ITV could have done that because they have slot problems.

"But I am pleased if there is more comedy on ITV. It helps raise the whole stock of the genre."

**TOP SITCOMS 1997**

| | Avg audience (millions) | | Avg audience (millions) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Men Behaving Badly (Thu) BBC1 | 12.27 | 16 Holding the Baby Granada | 6.85 |
| 2 Last of Summer Wine (Sun) BBC1 | 9.16 | 17 Men Behaving Badly BBC1 (var) | 6.82 |
| 3 The Brittas Empire BBC1 | 9.01 | 18 Bad BBC1 | 6.79 |
| 4 Only Fools and Horses (BBC1) | 8.51 | 19 Keeping Mum BBC1 | 6.70 |
| 5 The Detectives (BBC1) | 8.25 | 20 One Foot in the Grave BBC1 (Tue) | 6.65 |
| 6 Birds of a Feather (Mon) BBC1 | 8.07 | 21 Last of Summer Wine BBC1 (Sun) | 6.45 |
| 7 Birds of a Feather (Sun) BBC1 | 7.91 | 22 Dad's Army BBC1 | 6.39 |
| 8 Goodnight Sweetheart BBC1 | 7.74 | 23 Are You Being Served? BBC1 | 6.25 |
| 9 Last of the Summer Wine BBC1 | 7.67 | 24 The Peter Principle BBC1 | 6.23 |
| 10 Next of Kin BBC1 | 7.64 | 25 Bloomin' Marvellous BBC1 | 6.19 |
| 11 As Time Goes By BBC1 | 7.46 | 26 Men Behaving Badly BBC1 (Wed) | 6.17 |
| 12 Keeping Up Appearances BBC1 | 7.14 | 27 Absolutely Fabulous BBC1 | 5.76 |
| 13 Men Behaving Badly (Thu) BBC1 | 7.08 | 28 A Prince Among Men BBC1 | 5.75 |
| 14 One Foot in the Grave (Thu) BBC1 | 6.95 | 29 Blind Men LWT | 5.65 |
| 15 Spark BBC1 | 6.85 | 30 Red Dwarf BBC2 | 5.61 |

## Lessons in how to make 'em smile (and how not)



Comedy line-up: from left, the American hit *Frasier*; the 1970s success *Rising Damp* — still one of ITV's best-remembered comedies; the current BBC ratings winner *Men Behaving Badly*; and ITV's *Holding the Baby*, which had one of the smallest audiences for a peak-time sitcom.

## BBC's visitor centre turns off audience

BY CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC's visitor centre, opened to the public to celebrate the corporation's 75-year history, is failing to attract the predicted crowds of tourists.

Many visitors say they have been disappointed by the attractions at BBC Experience, which include "dull" shots of Radio 5 Live's newsroom reading traffic bulletins and a video of Steve Wright, the Radio 2 disc jockey.

Since it opened its doors on October 30 last year, 20,000 people have attended — well below the BBC's already modest target of 200,000 visitors in the first 12 months. Many of the exhibits are highly sophisticated, including interactive sets from *EastEnders* and the opportunity for visitors to do their own commentary over famous sporting events.

Many insiders believe the BBC has made a mistake by refusing to spend money advertising the "theme park", in the basement of Broadcasting House in Portland Place, central London. The entry fee is £5.75 for adults, £4 for children.

Premier London tourist attractions such as the Tower of London and Madame Tussaud's pull in more than 200,000 visitors each month. Granada Studio Tours in Manchester, which allows visitors to walk along the cobbles of Coronation Street, receives 750,000 each year.

Mike McDonald, general manager of BBC Experience, defended the attractions and insisted customer feedback had been positive and that attendance was as expected for that time of year.

ADVERTISEMENT

# Homeowners

## If you want to afford a better lifestyle...

The **Shared Appreciation Mortgage™ (S.A.M.™)** is an exciting new concept from Bank of Scotland. There are two **S.A.M.s™** both of which allow you to raise money quickly and easily, and with a low interest rate fixed for life, presently **0%** or **5.99%**.

### How does it work?

As the name suggests, all we ask from you when leaving the scheme is that you share with us a percentage of any future appreciation in value of your property, together with repayment of the loan.

The interest rate chosen determines the level of appreciation you will be required to pay when leaving the scheme. Any equity you currently have in the property remains yours, except in the event of any future decrease in the value of your home.

In any case where the property value falls below the initial value, there will be no Shared Appreciation to pay.

**0% S.A.M.™**

- Zero % interest fixed for life
- No upper age limits for applicants
- Minimum Loan £15,001
- Minimum Property Valuation £60,000
- Maximum loan 25% of property valuation

**5.99% S.A.M.™**

- 5.99% fixed for life
- No upper age limits for applicants
- Minimum Loan £15,001
- Minimum Property Valuation £60,000
- Maximum loan 75% of property valuation

### Who decides what the funds can be used for?

**You do!** Whether you want to raise money to improve your lifestyle by investing for the future, carrying out those long desired home improvements, repaying an existing mortgage, treating yourself to a holiday or purchasing that dream car, then the **Shared Appreciation Mortgage™** may be the solution for you.

### Can I repay the mortgage at any time?

**Yes!** The choice of when to repay the mortgage is yours. You can exit at any time, or alternatively it can be repaid on death, or death of the surviving partner, if a joint mortgage.

### To apply

It couldn't be easier. Simply call us, or contact your local branch for an application form and brochure. Alternatively, if it is more convenient, cut out the coupon and send it to us. We will then arrange to send you the brochures.

**BANK OF SCOTLAND®**
**RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGES**
**Call us today from 10am – 4pm or Monday to Friday from 8am – 5pm on**
**0131 317 6827**
**0131 317 6828**
**0131 317 6829**

Please send me more information on the Shared Appreciation Mortgage™ Post to: Bank of Scotland, Residential Mortgages, (S.A.M.™) Team, FREEPOST (Licence No. EH 337), 41 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 0PD.

☐ 0% Scheme ☐ 5.99% Scheme ☐ Both Schemes

Name:_____ TIM05

Address:_____

Postcode:_____ Telephone Number:_____

We are obliged under the provision of the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1989 to include this statement because you are required to create a mortgage over your home as security for the loan.

Typical mortgage example: The example is based on representative information as follows: house value of £130,000. A loan of £71,500 with Shared Appreciation of 55%. Although the loan can be for life this example is based on the whole of the loan and Shared Appreciation being repaid after 20 years. The chargeable rate of interest is 5.99%. Total amount payable will be £260,034 to include 240 monthly interest payments of £356.90, Shared Appreciation (£100,938), Arrangement Fee (£500), Legal Fees (£600), Valuation Fees on entrance and exit totalling (£540) and an Administration Fee (£300). All amounts are calculated without the benefit of MIRAS.

**APR 9.0%.** APR based on representative information set out above. House price inflation, valuation and legal fees may vary.

To apply for a mortgage you must be aged 18 or over. Written consumer credit quotations are available on request from BOS (Shared Appreciation Mortgages) No. 5 PLC, No. 6 PLC, and Scotland (No. 3) ltd, Teviot House, 41 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh, EH12 9DR. All lending is subject to approval by Bank of Scotland as agent for BOS (Shared Appreciation Mortgages) No. 5 PLC, No. 6 PLC, and Scotland (No. 3) ltd, of the applicant(s) financial status. BOS (Shared Appreciation Mortgages) No. 5 PLC, No. 6 PLC, and Scotland (No. 3) ltd, require security over the property. An acceptable life assurance policy is also required. Valuations are also required on substantial damage or compulsory purchase of property or if you make improvements costing more than £10,000. All valuations at your cost. Valuation fees vary depending on property valuation. Limited funds available. Currently not available in Northern Ireland. BOS (Shared Appreciation Mortgages) No. 5 PLC, BOS (Shared Appreciation Mortgages) No. 6 PLC, and BOS (Shared Appreciation Mortgages (Scotland) No. 3) ltd are owned subsidiaries of Bank of Scotland. The name Bank of Scotland and ® are registered trademarks, and (Shared Appreciation Mortgages) and S.A.M. are trademarks of The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland.

**YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.**

هكذا من الأصل



VALERIE GROVE MEETS: **GERRY ROBINSON**

# This won't be a one-man show, says business star taking centre stage for arts

ALAN WELLER



Gerry Robinson says that he became rich through a talent for "seeing what needed to be done, and getting people to do it"

Gerry Robinson — not to be confused with Geoffrey "Offshore Funds" Robinson, Paymaster General — was appointed this week as the new chairman of the Arts Council: just in time for yesterday's announcement of a £1.5 million budget cut, "the worst funding crisis in my lifetime" in the words of outgoing chairman Lord Gowrie as he hands over the poisoned chalice.

One must sympathise with Robinson, who had nothing to do with the cut but will be besieged, between now and next April, by doomed theatre and dance companies about their fraying shoestrings.

Everyone said Gowrie would be the last Old Etonian grandee at the Arts Council — and so it turned out. Gerrard Jude Robinson, 49, ninth of ten children of an Irish carpenter, left school at 16 after training to be a priest. One can easily picture him in a cassock — pink-cheeked, boyish, gentle-voiced, he can slip into the brogue in a trice — but he deserted God for Mammon and has made a fortune in business. Gowrie spent 35 hours a week at the Arts Council on "crisis management" but Robinson says: "If I found myself having to spend more than one day a week there in six months' time, I would consider myself to have failed." The key to good chairmanship — he already chairs the Granada group, BSkyB, and the Royal Court Theatre development board — is having the right team to run the operation.

On Thursday night, after his first Arts Council meeting (but before the budget cut announcement) we sank into a deep blue sofa in his vast and bookless drawing room in Holland Park: very grand and tidy, in soothing shades of sand and cream, with swagged curtains and some pretty pictures.

It is a long way, as they say, from the village of Dunfanaghy in Donegal, pop. 200, where there was never enough work for his dad. When Gerry was nine his family emigrated and came to a tiny flat in Whitechapel. At 12 he left the local Catholic grammar school to train as a missionary with the Holy Ghost Fathers in Lancashire. But by the age of 15 he began to find girls pretty interesting, so goodbye priesthood. He sent his trunk home ahead, to soften the blow to his disappointed mother.

The Youth Employment Office in Hackney sent him to be a costing clerk at a Matchbox Toy factory where 3,500 East End women enjoyed teasing the blue-eyed innocent. He acquired a scooter and Ben Sherman shirts, insignia of 1960s Mod, qualified as a chartered accountant and married at 21. Only the lure of a new Mini drove him to seek a job at Lex. The story of his life since then has two refrains: if a company was "in a hell of a mess" (Coca-Cola, or GrandMet's contract catering and hotel operation) he would have "a hell of a good time" sorting it out, turning it round. With no career plan, he just found he had a talent for "seeing what needed to be done, and getting people to do it. It's a basic skill that gets very well rewarded." By the time he was 40, he had done a management buyout of GrandMet catering and was making serious money. "About £20 million over a couple of years — riches beyond one's wildest dreams." He makes it all sound so easy and such fun.



Hang on, I said: into every life a little rain must fall. Well, yes, his marriage broke up at that time. It was a Robin Cook situation. He ran off with his pretty secretary, Heather, and there was a lot of ill-feeling. The children, Samantha and Richard, were angry. They stayed with their mother but later joined him in Holland Park ("because they like being in London") although Samantha, an art student whose paintings adorn the walls, has moved into a flat.

He and Heather now have two small children, April and Timothy, six and three. Robinson first began being profiled when his Compass Group began snapping up giants for breakfast. Take Granada. "I spent a couple of days looking through the numbers and it seemed to me it could be turned around pretty quickly. It had all those big chunky businesses — television, motorway services, TV rentals. But they had bought theme parks and computer services and lost the plot."

The howling from the old guard at Granada TV was Robinson's first whiff of being a hate-figure, to his own surprise. "I didn't realise how high-profile it was, how much coverage it would get. It was obvious to me that David Plowright and I were never going to make it work together. I understand what he felt — he'd run it for 20 years — but he could have stayed as a director of Granada and he could have retired as a grand old man. Instead he had to go, and he went with a lot of noise."

Another bitter battle ensued when Granada swallowed up Forte: Robinson playing villain to the Forte heirs, Sir Rocco and his sister Olga Polizzi. "Of course, you're not going to think it's a brilliant idea if your family business, built up by your father, is taken over. But I have a sneaking regard for Olga: I think she's very feisty. I don't think she'll ever be my best friend but I liked her honest approach."

And hadn't he made Sir Christopher Bland, now chairman of the BBC governors, look grim when Granada took over London Weekend Television? "I like Christopher," he said, Irish eyes smiling, "and Greg Dyke too." It doesn't bother him if he runs into people whose companies he has wrested from them: his easy-going, laughing, laid-back style is to get on with everyone he gets involved with — Sam Chisholm, John Mortimer at the English Stage Company, Sir Colin Southgate, the new Opera House chairman.

Robinson's tastes are on the light side (Verdi, Donizetti) but he lists opera among his hobbies in Who's Who. He had voted Tory all his life but moved over to Labour when he saw Blair's dramatic changes. He joined the the One Thousand Club and made a £10,000 personal donation. "I spoke in an election broadcast and at a gathering of business people. But my backing of Labour was entirely because they brought the party up to date. I had no time at all for the hard Left, which they've got rid of because it doesn't work. Now they have a better balance between caring and being practical."

> "If I spend more than one day a week there in six months' time, I would have failed"

Well, now he has another hell of a mess to turn around. As soon as his Arts Council role was announced this week, epithets were hurled: "A philistine ... The man who crushed the life out of Granada's drama ..." said a furious voice on *Kaleidoscope*.

He calls this reaction "the capacity to judge without looking" and says: "Granada not only makes more drama than ever before but we've won more awards. We are the best producers of general programmes outside the BBC and in commercial TV miles ahead of anyone else." He did not seek the Arts Council job. He turned it down when a headhunter approached him in December.

Then they asked again. "I was convinced by Chris Smith personally that he wants the thing to work and work well." It has become a paid post but he will take no payment.

Until he gets started — and he is champing at the bit to do so — he can merely mouth platitudes about how vital it is to support the arts and do so efficiently and effectively, and to have a body independent of government to fight the corner for arts funding. On Thursday night he was assuring me that nothing would be closed down. "Absolutely not. I'm involved in the business world and that's about doing things well, not closing things down.

"There will never be enough money. Lottery money, which is pretty much allocated now, just confuses the situation. To be fair to the Labour Party, they can't increase the money available: their election promise was to stick to budgets. Anyone who wants funds has to convince the giver about their efficiency."

And anyone who has money to dole out ends up being resented, even by the recipients of their largesse. "It's like a beauty contest," he said. "Everyone thinks they deserve to win."

Yesterday afternoon, after three hours at the Arts Council, he was beginning to discover what is in store. His nearest theatre, the Gate at Notting Hill, is one of those under threat. It is losing its pathetic grant of £20,000.

Not even Chris Smith's changes in the way lottery money is deployed, "to support people and activities rather than buildings", will come in time to save our artistic souls. Surely the only solution is for more big businesses and private sponsors to get involved?

Over to you, Gerry.

**Gerald Kaufman**
**Weekend page 2**

# Karaoke rampage through Coward

**MUSIC**

**Twentieth Century Blues**

Park Lane Hotel

After Cole Porter comes the turn of Noël Coward. The idea of letting an assortment of pop stars loose on that most debonair of writers always had a dubious ring about it, even if it was all to be done in the name of charity. And having heard what Neneh Cherry and her peers inflicted on Porter's *I've Got You Under My Skin* a couple of years ago, only the breeziest of optimists would have expected miracles of Thursday night's rampage through Coward.

In fact the concert was a sneak preview of a celebrity album — recorded for the Red Hot Aids Charitable Trust, with Neil Tennant as executive producer — which is due out in April. At its best, in Marianne Faithful's husky treatment of *Mad About The Boy*, the show proved (if anyone doubted it) that Coward's bitter-sweet wit is no period piece.

At its very considerable worst — step forward, please, Robbie Williams — this £300-a head gala qualified as the priciest karaoke show in town.

The problem is obvious. Coward was writing for an audience of grown-ups, whereas most of the pop industry is trapped in a bubble of arrested adolescence. Attempting to compensate for that shortcoming by wrapping the subject matter in Pet Shop Boys irony is never going to be more than a partial solution. It largely fell to Ned Sherrin's guest presenters, ranging from Belinda Lang to Nicholas Grace, to supply a touch of class with Coward's own *bons mots*.

Still, as long as money is being raised there is no point in carping. Moreover, one or two of the combinations on the collection that were not performed here — Bryan Ferry singing *I'll See You Again*, Vic Reeves performing *Mrs Worthington* — sound promising enough.

Apart from Marianne Faithful, Sting was one of the few VIPs capable of approaching the material on its own terms, as you would expect from the man who made an appearance on Joe Henderson's jazz version of *Porgy and Bess*. Accompanied by a harpist he gave a vulnerable reading of *I'll Follow My Secret Heart*. Though Shola Ama seemed wholly adrift on *Someday I'll Find You*, and The Divine Comedy blasted a crass techno path through *Marvellous Party*, Elton John held his own on the title number, supported by punchy horn lines.

The lyrics of *Poor Little Rich Girl* were lost in Suede's sonic backwash. But why be fuddy-duddy and worry about mere words? Coward's portait looked down on the proceedings from both sides of the stage. I suspect his spirit was previously engaged.

CLIVE DAVIES


**ART GALLERIES**

JEAN-CLAUDE JANET
NOW ON VIEW
ROY MILES GALLERY
29 BRUTON STREET W1
0171 495 4747

ROWLAND HILDER, PPRI & ANTHONY FLEMMING Until 30 Jan. DUNCAN CAMPBELL 15 Thackeray St, W8. 0171 937 8665.

**OPERA & BALLET**

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr)
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tom't 7.30 EUGENE ONEGIN
Wed 7.30 THE MAGIC FLUTE

Sadler's Wells at the Peacock Theatre 0171 314 8800
LES BALLETS TROCKADERO DE MONTE CARLO
in 2 programmes of
'Ballet as you've never seen it before...HILARIOUS' The Times
13-31 January

THE ROYAL BALLET
Box Office 0171 304 4000
at the Royal Festival Hall
Box Office 0171 960 4242.
Tickets also available from Ticketmaster on 0171 957 4021.
LAST PERFORMANCES
Today 2.00 & 7.00 CINDERELLA
"Ashton's Cinderella is the best there is" D Tel

**THEATRES**

OXFORD STAGE COMPANY IN ASSOCIATION WITH BRISTOL OLD VIC PRESENT
junk
BY WILLY RUSSELL
STARRING ROBERT LINDSAY & BILL PATERSON
Junk - Heroin - Bliss - Despair - A love affair you'll never forget
TOURING NOW TO WELLINGBOROUGH, OXFORD, BURY ST EDMUNDS, LIVERPOOL, DARTFORD, TAUNTON, HUDDERSFIELD, BRISTOL
FOR MORE DETAILS CALL 01865 245781

**OPERA & BALLET**

THE ROYAL OPERA
Box Office 0171 304 4000
at the Shaftesbury Theatre
Box Office 0171 379 5399.
Tickets also available from Ticketmaster on 0171 957 4020.
Mon (First Night), Wed, Thur, Fri 7.00
LE NOZZE DI FIGARO
(NEW PRODUCTION)

**THEATRES**

ADELPHI
cc 24hrs (£1 bkg fee) 344 0055
'A show to die for' Telegraph
'Dripping with style' Express
CHICAGO
THE MUSICAL
RUTHIE HENSHALL UTE LEMPER
HENRY GOODMAN
NIGEL PLANER
Mon-Sat 8, Wed & Sat Mats 2.30

ALBERY 389 1730/344 4444
"You'll be dancing on air" D.Mail
STEPPING OUT
THE NEW MUSICAL
'Tapping a rich vein of joy' Times
'IT'S THE FULL MONTY WITH TAPPERS-GLITTERING' D.Mir
'JUST WONDERFUL' Int.H.Trib
Eves 8pm Mats Thur 3pm Sat 4pm

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6003
cc 344 4444
'Dame Judi is triumphant in Hare's masterpiece' D.Mail
JUDI DENCH
SAMANTHA BOND
RONALD PICKUP
JOYCE REDMAN
The National Theatre Production of
AMY'S VIEW
a new play by DAVID HARE
Directed by RICHARD EYRE
Eves 7.30, Sat Mat 2.30

**THEATRES**

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6000
Andrew Lloyd Webber and Jim Steinman's new musical
WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND
Opens July 1 Box Office opens Feb 1

APOLLO 24hr cc 0171 494 5070
cc 0171 344 4444 (bkg fee)
Grps 0171 494 5454
BEN ELTON'S
POPCORN
"Electrifying...bloodcurdling comedy...I recommend it with relish" John Peters Sun.Times
"The West End has found its resident Playwright" IOS
Mon-Sat 8.00pm
Mats Wed 3.00pm Sat 4.00pm

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 416 6075/413 3321
Andrew Lloyd Webber's
STARLIGHT EXPRESS
THE FASTEST SHOW ON EARTH
White knuckle runs 19.45 daily
Tue & Sat 3pm Tickets from £12.50

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS
'The nearest thing to Xmas at Dingley Dell' Dly Expr.'Best Panto in London' BBC Radio 2 Players' Theatre WC2 "BABES IN THE WOOD" MATS:Sunday 3pm, Eves 8.15pm ENDS FEB 8TH Lunch, Tea, Dinner, Supper avail
Children £5.50. Bkg 0171 639 1134

CAMBRIDGE 494 5080/416 6060
344 4444/420 0000 (+ bkg fee)
Groups 494 5454
416 6075/413 3321/436 5588
GREASE
NOW IN ITS
5TH FANTASTIC YEAR!
LUKE GOSS as Danny until 24 Jan; IAN KELSEY From 26 Jan
"A Monster Hit" D.Mirror
Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat mat 3pm
BOOKING TO THE MILLENNIUM

**RESTAURANTS**

THE FLEET TANDOORI RESTAURANT
104 Fleet Rd, Hampstead.
We are a highly reputed restaurant in Hampstead for both high quality food and friendly service.
Recommended by many top food writers
Open 12.00-2.30 & 6.00-12.00
TEL 0171 485 6402

COMEDY THEATRE 369 1731
cc 0171 344 4444
"EDWARD FOX's Macmillan a tour de force" E.Std.
"CLARE HIGGINS excellent" F.T.
In Hugh Whitemore's
A LETTER OF RESIGNATION
'One of the most literate and powerful plays in the West End.' Time Out
Mon-Sat Evgs 7.45
Mats Wed 3.00, Sats 4.00

CRITERION 369 1737/344 4444
3RD HILARIOUS YEAR
THE REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged)
All 37 Plays in 97 Minutes
"Hilarious" Times
"Go Now!" Sunday Times
Mats Thur at 3 sat at 5
Sun at 4, Eves at 8pm
THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged)
Tuesday at 8pm

DOMINION 0171 656 1685/0890 203020/0990 204020/0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 416 6096/0171 312 1997/ 0800 614603
DISNEY'S
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
THE NEW HIT MUSICAL
"AN ENCHANTING EVENING-GENUINELY GLORIOUS" D.Tel
"A FEAST OF GOOD FUN" D.Mail
New Group Rates-Now Booking
Mon-Sat 7.30, Wed & Sat Mats 2.30

DONMAR WAREHOUSE 369 1732
THE FRONT PAGE
Ltd Season - 28 Feb
Mon-Sat 7.30 Wed & Sat Mats 3

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL
SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000
MISS SAIGON
"THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME"
NOW IN ITS
9TH BREATHTAKING YEAR!
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm
Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O.

DUCHESS BO/CC 24 hrs 0171 494 5075/494 5588/420 0000(£1 serv chrg) Grps(8+)0171 494 5454
SCISSOR HAPPY
'more rad barrings than a Soviet Trawler' The Guardian
Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 5.30 & 8.30, Mat Wed 2.30 Tkts from £7.50
Now Booking Until April '98

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/312 8033/494 5588
NOW IN ITS 9th HIT YEAR
ROBERT DEMEGER DAVID PULLAN
Susan Hill's
THE WOMAN IN BLACK
Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
"The most thrilling and chilling play for years" D.Mail
Mon-Sat 8 Mats Tue 3 & Sat 4
Running time 2hrs

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/312 1690/ 494 5588 (no bkg fee)
Groups 0171 494 5454
Winner of 19 Major Awards
The Royal National Theatre Production
PIP MILLER
ALISON FISKE JOHN BARDON
JB Priestley's
AN INSPECTOR CALLS
"Thrilling...Must be seen" D.Mail
"Two hours enthralling, visually stunning drama" D Tel
Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15
Mats Wed 2.30

GIELGUD 494 5065 (No bkg fee)
Eves 7.45 Mats Thur 3/Sat 4
THE PETER HALL COMPANY
Christopher Cazenove Kate O'Mara
Simon Ward Richard Todd
Madeleine Potter Barbara Murray
OSCAR WILDE'S CLASSIC COMEDY
AN IDEAL HUSBAND
"GREAT AND GLORIOUS" S.Tms

HAYMARKET B.O/cc 930 8800/344 4444 (bkg fee)
MAGGIE SMITH EILEEN ATKINS
JOHN STANDING
in EDWARDS ALBEE'S
A DELICATE BALANCE
with SIAN THOMAS
JAMES LAURENSON
ANNETTE CROSBIE
directed by ANTHONY PAGE
Tue-Sat 8pm, Wed & Sat Mats 3pm

HAYMARKET BO/cc 0171 930 8800 cc 344 4444 (bkg fee)
EDNA THE SPECTACLE
An Icon Returns
from 8 April

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/436 5588
ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
Directed by HAROLD PRINCE
NOW BKG TO MAY 99
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00.
Apply to Box Office daily for returns

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 bd serv chg) 420 0000
Grps 0171 494 5450/413 3321
JIM DALE RETURNS AS FAGIN
OLIVER!
3RD IRRESPRESSIBLE YEAR
"LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE
YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE"
S.Times
Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30
Some good seats avail now for weekday perfs
FINAL PERF 21 FEB '98

LONDON PALLADIUM 0171 494 5030/344 4444 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 494 5454/413 3321
SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER
Prevs 21 Apr. Opens 5 May

LYCEUM cc 0171 656 1806 0990 500 800/420 0000/344 4444(bkg fee) Grps 416 6076
TIM RICE & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S
JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR
"Sends shivers racing down the spine" D Telegraph
Eves 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat 3
(no bkg fee for personal callers at the Lyceum box office 10am-8pm).
£15 tickets for students avail Mon-Thu are bookable in advance.
Now booking to March 1998
Some seats avail at door Mon - Fri

LYRIC 0171 494 5045 (24hr & cc 5kg fee)/344 4444 (Bkg fee)
Groups 0171 494 5454
Royal Shakespeare Company
ANTONY SHER in
CYRANO DE BERGERAC
'The Cyrano of the decade' FT
Eves at 7.30pm
Mats Wed & Sat at 2.00pm
Limited season ends 14 Feb

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252: Grps 0171 620 0741: 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000.
OLIVIER Today 2.00 & 7.15, Mon 7.15 AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE by Henrik Ibsen in a new version by Christopher Hampton
LYTTELTON Today 2.15 & 7.30, Mon 7.30 CLOSER a new play by Patrick Marber.
COTTESLOE Tom't, Mon 7.30 (PREVIEWS) THE DAY I STOOD STILL a new play by Kevin Elyot.

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079
24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000
Grps 0171 413 3311/436 5588
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00
Bars open at 6.45
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 413 3311
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
NOW IN ITS 13TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR
Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee)
BEST MUSICAL
Olivier/Drama Awards
Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards
WILLY RUSSELL'S
BLOOD BROTHERS
...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail
Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3pm Sat 4pm

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400
First Call 420 0100 cc 344 4444
Groups 420 0200
LAST 2 MONTHS TO SEE
BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG'S "MUSICAL MASTERPIECE"
Int Her Trib
MARTIN GUERRE
BEST NEW MUSICAL
LAURENCE OLIVIER AWARDS
MUST CLOSE 28 FEB
Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5987
First Call 420 0000 cc 344 4444
GRAMMY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
"Hot from Broadway. Enough energy to electrify a city." D. Mail
SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ
THE SONGS OF LEIBER & STOLLER
Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.45 & 8.30 Sat 3pm & 8pm
NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 1998

QUEENS BO/cc 0171 494 5040 cc 344 4444 Grps 494 5454/580 6793
BUGSY MALONE
THE MESSIEST SHOW IN TOWN!
Tue-Sat 7.30 Mats Tue Wed & Sat 2.30
MUST END TON'T

To advertise in ENTERTAINMENTS
Tel: 0171 680 6222
or fax: 0171 481 9313

Queens Theatre 0171 494 5040
21 January - 14 March
SHOPPING AND F**ING
By Mark Ravenhill

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
STRATFORD 01789 295623/0541 541051 Today 1.30 & 7.30
RSTMERCHANT OF VENICE
SWAN:BARTHOLOMEW FAIR
TOP:GOODNIGHT CHILDREN EVERYWHERE
LONDON 0171 638 8891 Today 2.00 & 7.15 Barbican:CYMBELINE
Tom't, Tomor 5.00 Pit:THE MYSTERIES

SAVOY BO/cc 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000
IAN RICHARDSON
"TOUR DE FARCE" D.Tel
GRAHAM CROWDEN
"EXPLOSIVELY FUNNY" NotW
THE MAGISTRATE
by Arthur Wing Pinero
Mon-Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00
LIMITED SEASON

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443
Eves 8, Tue 2.45, Sat 5 & 8.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
46th YEAR

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800
cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000
Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 436 5588
"BUDDY"
The Buddy Holly Story
"BRILLIANT" Sun
"BUDDY"
"WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel
Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30
Sats 5.00 & 8.30
SUNDAYS 4.00pm kids ½ Price
ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF
9th KNOCKOUT YEAR!
Now booking 'til the year 2000

VAUDEVILLE LIVE! 0171 836 9987
cc 0171 344 4444 (24hrs)
THE RIGHT SIZE
UNTIL 14 FEBRUARY
"You laugh til you gasp" Gdn
Eves 7.30 Sat Mat 4.00
KIT & THE WIDOW
UNTIL 31 JANUARY Eves 9.15
'Tinkling the ironies with class and camp' Ind
BEST AVAILABLE SEATS FROM £12.99

WHITEHALL 0171 369 1735
Mon-Thur 9.00 Fri/Sat 7.00 & 9.30
KIM CRISWELL in
THE SLOW DRAG
90 cool minutes of HOT jazz
'THE BAND IS HOT AND THE SINGING HOTTER' Ind
LAST 5 PERFORMANCES

WILTON'S MUSIC HALL
off Cable St, E1. BO 0171 926 2252
FIONA SHAW
T.S.ELIOT'S
THE WASTE LAND
Dir by DEBORAH WARNER
37 minutes at 7.30pm & 8.45pm
Extended run Tue 13-Sat 17
Sat 17 at 5pm & 7pm

WYNDHAMS 369 1736/344 4444
BEST COMEDY
Eve Standard Awards
BEST COMEDY
Laurence Olivier Awards
"ART"
MALCOLM STORRY
NIGEL HAVERS
RON COOK
A new play by Yasmina Reza
Trans by Christopher Hampton
Eves 8, Mats Wed 3, Sat & Sun 5

BILL WRIGHT'S LEGENDARY Capital Breaks
ENJOY A WEEKEND AWAY WITH
LONDON'S Big, Cultural and a Great Place for a Break
ROLLING STONES 20 AUG
CHICAGO THE MUSICAL ALL DATES
SHIRLEY BASSEY 13 JUNE
GARY BARLOW 22 MAR
GENESIS 27 FEB
BILLY JOEL ELTON JOHN 7 JUNE
QUALITY ALL THE WAY
•4-5 STAR HOTELS •GREAT SEATS
•EXECUTIVE TRANSFER HOTEL TO SHOW •COMFORTABLE PRICES FROM £139 INC.
BOOK A BETTER BREAK TODAY
Tel: Bill 01 484 68 22 55

# A thunderbolt from the blue: this book will live forever

**Andrew Motion** on the Ted Hughes collection that few friends thought they would ever see

Ted Hughes arrived in Australia a few years ago to begin a reading tour and was greeted at the airport by demonstrators holding placards which accused him of murdering Sylvia Plath. It was an especially terrible moment in a long-running campaign. Plath had committed suicide in 1963, seven years after marrying Hughes and shortly before her most important collection of poems, *Ariel*, was published. It is a book obsessed by death. Without suffering there is no art, was the implication.

An implication with desperate consequences for Hughes. As the rocket-burn of the poems carried them to international fame, he was seared and scorched. These were the charges: in the last years of Plath's life he had left her and their two young children for another woman. He had destroyed the final volume of her journals. He was a chauvinist — however he might plead that he had acted honourably, thinking of nothing but Plath's reputation and her survivors. Hence those placards. Not to mention the vilification of Hughes on campuses. And the repeated desecration of Plath's grave in Yorkshire — the letters HUGHES hacked off her name on the headstone.



Sometimes Plath's biographers have tried to tell her story with due care and calm. We've heard about her long (pre-Hughes) history of mental illness. About how much she gained from his support and inspiration. But this evidence remains oddly unstable. When Anne Stevenson wrote *Bitter Fame* with support from the Hughes family, it was supposed to be a put-up job. When Janet Malcolm produced her scathing *The Silent Woman*, it won praise for being shrewd. A particular moment in feminism, a surge of political correctness, and a readiness to read poems as life-transcripts have combined to build a high wall round Plath. She has never been allowed to enjoy respect for her work without evoking pity for her situation.

And what has Hughes done in the midst of this inferno? Published nearly all — but no, not quite all — Plath's writing. Justified himself in a steady trickle of letters to the press, introductions, and so on. Watched his early life turn into one of the most celebrated love stories of the century. And kept a bristling badger-silence which seemed dignified to some, reprehensible to others, and fascinating to everyone.

It wasn't as complete as it seemed. Recently, Hughes has begun to release a few poems about Plath. Narratives, mainly, written in the notebook-style of Moortown Diary — all of them charged with an amazing fluidity and directness. But how many of them existed? That has remained a mystery: impossible to tell whether or not the great dam of his silence was breaking.

Nothing could have alerted even the aficionados to what was in fact happening. It turns out that for the past 25 years Hughes has been amassing the whole story of his life with Plath — the story which is soon to be published as *Birthday Letters* — 198 pages and 88 poems. The book comes like a thunderbolt from the blue.

And reading it is like being hit by a thunderbolt. Its power is sometimes tender, sometimes funny, sometimes anguished, and always springing from a burning, continuous present. Anyone who thought Hughes's reticence was proof of his hard heart will immediately see how stony they have been themselves. This is a book written by someone obsessed, stricken and deeply loving. There is nothing like it in literature. It makes us realise how many of his other poems, not specifically concerned with Plath, have been shaken into life by the earthquake shocks of her life and death.

Inevitably, everyone — professors as well as paparazzi — will want to know "what it says" about Plath. They won't be disappointed. In the poems printed in *The Times* today, Hughes remembers scenes from his courtship and marriage with wonderful precision — the peach scrunched outside Charing Cross station; the student parties (that famous bite/kiss), the first love-making ("You were slim and lithe and smooth as a fish").

There's no sense of score-settling or wrong-righting in any of this. Instead, a man remembering his young self, and the woman who overwhelmed him, in their full, flawed, utterly engrossing humanity. Hughes creates a strikingly complete, as well as a pulsatingly vivid, idea of life with Plath. As we follow them from Cambridge to London to America and back to Devon, from cheap lodgings to comparative comfort, we recognise the pleasures and pressures common to any marriage. At the same time, we watch exceptional difficulties emerging, the product of two such powerful personalities pouring themselves into each other and into a devotion to poetry.

Hughes often credits Plath for the gifts she gave him. Her fresh-peeled stranger's eye, for instance, which he says "woke up my dumb, ecstatic boyhood" and offered him subjects fit to withstand the high voltage of his poetry. But he also admits the differences which separate them — things which surface as local problems, but which generally signify a larger, subterranean divide. (On honeymoon: "Spain frightened you. Spain / Where I felt at home.")

More troubling still, he monitors the grim, gradual growth of Plath's preoccupation with her dead father, Otto. With something like despair, Hughes sees the dead parent consume the power of his own living love, becoming the focus for her poems as she becomes desperate to identify with and understand the past. With every step she takes closer to Otto in her poems, her authority grows; she also approaches the brink of her own grave.

Again, there's no question of Hughes finding ways to forgive himself for leaving Plath. By giving us his account of her psychic history inside his portrait of their domestic history, he creates a long perspective in which sudden actions become comprehensible — or at least inevitable. "What happens in the heart simply happens."

Nevertheless, even this great drive towards honesty, the honesty of the moment, cannot survive unchanged as the end approaches. As the *Ariel* poems start to run, as Plath becomes increasingly volatile, and Hughes's need for self-protection intense, the language of the book becomes more symbolic and private. In the short term, these final poems will probably be less admired than the rest of the book. In the fullness of time, they should be reckoned its finest achievement: poetry staggering under the weight of its emotional load, but keeping its dignity and purpose.

And that is why this book will live. Even if it were possible to set aside its biographical value (and why should we do that?), its linguistic, technical and imaginative feats would guarantee its future. Hughes is one of the most important poets of the century, and this is his greatest book. It's as magnetic as Browning's poems for Elizabeth Barrett, as poignant as Hardy's *Poems 1912-13*. It closes in a heart of darkness, a black hole of grief and regret; we stare into it feeling changed and enriched.

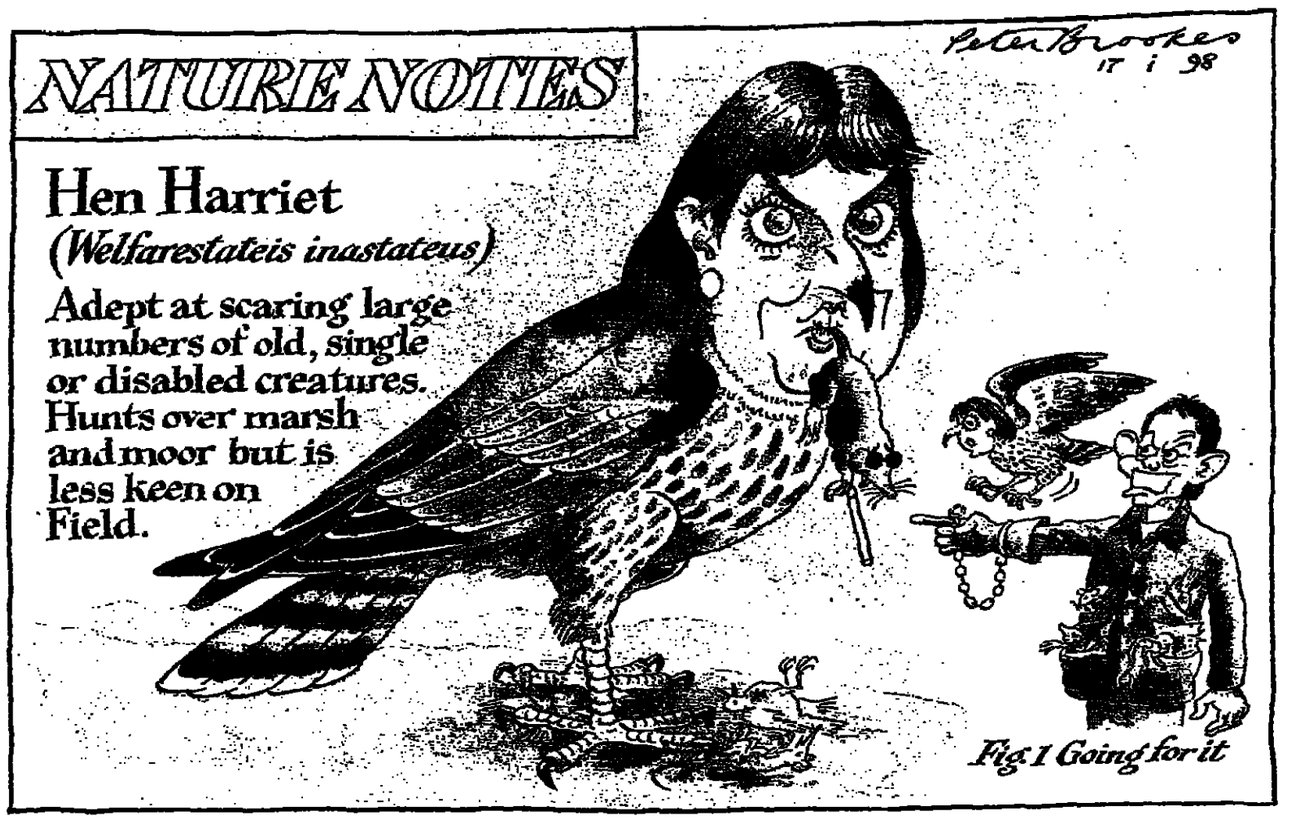


Fig 1 Going for it

# Provincial art? It's capital

Our real national gallery is going on show in London — just for a change

**Simon Jenkins**

On Tuesday of next week England's national gallery will open at the Royal Academy in Piccadilly. The great and good of the metropolis will come and gasp. Goodness, they will say, isn't that Giovanni Bellini? Where has that Goya been all these years? Isn't that a lost Bassano, an unknown Degas, a forgotten Picasso. Where has all this loot been hiding?

Where indeed? The gallery will be filled with old familiars, with Dürer, Michelangelo, Raphael, El Greco, Poussin, Rembrandt, Hals, van Ruysdael. In attendance will be van Dyck, Rubens, Canaletto, Guardi and Tiepolo. Beside them will hang Monet, Manet, Bonnard, Gauguin and Cézanne. This being the national gallery, pride of place will go to what is termed the "British canon", to masterpieces by Hogarth, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Stubbs, Turner, Constable, Millais and Burne-Jones. Nor are the moderns absent from the party. There will be Sickert, Nash, Spencer, Moore, Epstein, Burra, Hockney and Blake, rubbing shoulders with Van Gogh, Picasso and Derain. Never can the walls of the Academy have seen such a reunion.

But how come the "national gallery"? I once met a Japanese visitor who had just been to the British Museum. Where, she asked, *was it*? She had found the Egyptian museum, the Greek and Roman museum, the Polynesian museum, the oriental museum. Where was Britain? I explained the eccentric British paradox. Her British Museum in Bloomsbury was, of course, the Foreign Museum. The real British museum was a "museum without walls", dispersed far from London in the nation's churches, municipal institutes and country houses. As such it was, as Coleridge said of poetry, a secret shared with the public and thus very well kept.

The same goes for the national gallery. It is the nation's art in the nation's galleries outside the capital. British contempt for provincialism is total. Ask most readers of this article to name a principal street in Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Liverpool and they will look blank. Ask when they last visited Leeds, York, Bristol or Plymouth and most will say never, with a shudder. Crests would fall at failing such a test about Florence, Nice, Barcelona or New York. But England today is no more on the Grand Tour than it was in the 18th century. Oxbridge graduates would rather accept a posting to Sarajevo, Bangladesh or Rwanda than to Preston or Hull. To fashionable London, provincial England is a cultural swamp, a terra incognita fashioned of the welfare state out of Victorian greed.

The organisers of *The Art Treasures of England* at the Royal Academy have set out to show that England's provincial museums (not Scotland or Wales) contain what amounts to a second National Gallery. These contents may not quite equal the massed treasures of the country houses, which are a glory unto themselves. But they are owned by and for the public, scattered over a hundred venues from which this exhibition is drawn. At present, I am told, their audiences are falling and their rate-capped budgets plummeting. The galleries have lent their works to be seen in London like the burghers of Calais pleading their cause at court in sackcloth and ashes. Their cause is just. The chief joy of the show is to witness "in the flesh" so many works familiar from reproduction. Here is Ford Madox Brown's majestic *Work* from Manchester, father of a million prints. From Liverpool comes Yeames' *And When Did You Last See Your Father?* Here are Frith's *The Railway Station*, Millais' *Blind Girl* and Blake's *The Ancient of Days*. Luke Fildes' tragic applicants to a casual ward illustrated Dickens' famous cry, for the "dumb, wet, silent horrors, sphinxes set against a dead wall". The painting tore at the hardest Victorian heart and championed poor law reform.

Poussin's *Ashes of Phocion* from Liverpool would star in any national collection, as would Birmingham's Gentileschi, York's Parmigianino and the Bowes Museum's El Greco. The marriage of new money and great art is worthy of Holland in the Golden Age. Rochdale's *Crucifixion* by Giovanni di Paolo was donated by a local throat lozenge manufacturer. Wolverhampton's recently restored van Janssens, bought from "Mrs Thornley of Birmingham", is catalogued as "one of the greatest revelations to be found in an English regional collection". Why use the put-down "regional"? Birmingham's two works by Degas, one a superb early portrait, the other an equine study, are surely among his masterpieces.

England's early galleries were established reluctantly and from shame as much as enlightenment. Napoleon decreed 15 provincial museums in France in 1801. Britain did not have a National Gallery until 1833. While country houses were opening their collections to the public, it was not until the second half of the 19th century that the wealth of industrial Britain turned its attention to buying and displaying art.

Principal stimulus was the Great Exhibition of 1851, that "intoxicating blend of instruction and entertainment", dismissed as a worthless extravagance before it opened, yet visited by six million people in 140 days. A contemporary art exhibition in Manchester attracted more than a million people. By the 1870s museums were being erected by individual benefactors or public subscription in every city and town in England. They were phenomenally popular. According to Giles Waterfield in the Royal Academy catalogue, Birmingham Art Gallery attracted more than a million people in its early years, a figure never achieved since. Indeed most Victorian galleries "attracted more people annually than than they were to do in the 20th century".

The reason was in part their novelty, in part the lack of other leisure activity. But audiences flocked above all to exhibitions by living artists, to Watts, Burne-Jones, Millais and Holman Hunt, and to lectures by Morris and Ruskin. It is tempting to find in the accessibility and relevance of these artists at least one key to the popularity of the early galleries. Theirs was a living art, speaking directly to a mass audience. Of the Old Masters only the Dutch 17th century was equally favoured.

The Victorian patrons tower over this show. They were grandees unknown and unsung today, because they did not inherit their fortunes but earned them, and because they gave not to "the nation" but to that most unfashionable geographical entity, the British city. Art was promoted under the generosity of Walker of Liverpool (thanks to brewing), Wrigley of Bury (paper), Kay of Stockport (medicine), Cunliffe Lister of Bradford (textiles), Whitworth of Manchester (screws) and Laing of Newcastle (spirits).

These were often unsophisticated men. Yet they were buying pictures and building galleries at a time of confidence in modern art and a belief in its centrality to education. These were early years of democratic local government. Local councils were permitted to form their own spending priorities, and were anything but philistine in doing so. What were called "slum museums" sprung up almost everywhere. In 1895 the Board of Education even included museum and gallery visiting in the "national curriculum". Thirty thousand children promptly poured through Bradford City Art Gallery in a year. Such an emphasis is inconceivable in the national curriculum today. Art must now play third fiddle behind the virtuosi of maths and science.

Provincial galleries are today disappearing into public spending's Bermuda Triangle. They are no longer priorities for their owners, mostly rate-capped local authorities or cash-limited universities. They are real and thus do not appeal to new Labour's obsession with the "virtual", with anything on-screen or on-line. Finally, they are out of London. Their supporters are seldom the bankers and lottery-merchants who uphold even smaller London galleries such as the Wallace and the Dulwich.

Civic galleries embodied civic identity at a time when pride was considered crucial to urban prosperity. That identity has been usurped by "regional offices of government", by ministers and officials who despise localism and believe that civic pride lies in conforming to an auditor's league table. Such officials may love *Work*, *The Blind Girl* and *The Railway Station*, but please only with a W1 postcode.

When the Academy show closes, these fine pictures must brush away a tear and disappear. They must become once more a Cinderella in a pumpkin. They will have danced under the stars and supped with the great and the good. But the nation's gallery will cease to be one and become many again. It must return to its cinders. Perhaps a glass slipper will remain behind. Perhaps a prince from Treasury Castle will spot it, hold it to his breast and seek out its owner. But I bet he will not seek her north of Potters Bar.

# Legal lesson

AFTER going into legal battle for Diana, Princess of Wales, Anthony Julius might be the beneficiary of another regal appointment that could take up even more of his most valuable time. The senior brief at Mishcon de Reya is deep in negotiations with University College London for yet another job. Earlier this week Julius denied overcharging the Diana Memorial Fund by saying that threequarters of his days are spent working for the fund without charge, leaving him scant time to earn money. His new appointment would be overseen by the Princess Royal as Chancellor of the university. It wants to create a new chair for the workaholic, giving him the handle "professor".


New role: Princess Royal, Julius

"I have been teaching the relationship between law and literature," he says. "It is possible that I may take a part-time post and it might come with a chair. UCL hasn't made up its mind, neither have I." He won Diana a £17 million divorce settlement and his firm has bagged £500,000 from her memorial fund. But, with senior colleagues leaving, will he have enough time for Mishcon de Reya? "It wouldn't affect my work. I would still stay litigating."



"I see that earl's in the news again"

● *PRINCE EDWARD now travels second class. HRH was sighted on the 9.30 from Darlington on Thursday morning, suggesting that a bicycling monarchy must soon be upon us. His presence sparked great excitement in the buffet car when two old women barrelled in, boasting of their discovery. "It's him, it's him," they squeaked. "Ooh, he has a lovely smile." As the east coast rushed by, so did a stream of passengers keen to see their frugal royal travelling companion.*

## Cheque out

THIS financial restraint by the Royal Family could be going a little far. The Duchess of York, making great strides to rebuild her life despite the carping, is being treated with depressing cruelty by courtiers. First she was sent a bill for lightbulbs at her converted stables in the grounds of the house she once shared with the Duke of York. Now she has been humiliated in front of her two daughters by a check-out girl at her local supermarket. The duchess was on her weekly shop to Waitrose, which she has patronised for nine months. "Hello Ma'am," said the assistant. "Which account is this for?" This flummoxed the duchess: "I thought I only had one." Not any more, she was told. Now there are two: one for the Duke, and another for the duchess and her children. "It was so humiliating," says a friend. "She didn't know there were two accounts and nor did Andrew." What, I wonder, are the Duke's staff up to, and on whose orders?

● *Essex County Council advert: "Walking the forest way — by bus"*

## Off piste

THIS year's all-party parliamentary ski club excursion to Davos could be the last: the whips are threatening to ban the annual bash after a rash of injuries which worry the body-counting guardians at Westminster. Quentin Davies came closest to going the same sad way as Michael Kennedy. "He was practising his speed and smashed into a tree. Quentin is sporting a nasty black eye," says a colleague. Quentin's son also tumbled and seriously wrenched his knee. Luckily Denis MacShane, Robin Cook's PPS, was on hand. "I staunched the flow of blood and flagged down an emergency vehicle," he says.

With the daughter of Tom Levitt, Labour MP for High Peak, also hospitalised, skiing has been designated a dangerous sport. Paddy Ashdown sprained his arm on a previous trip and Sonny Bono, whose political ambitions were cut short on the slopes, is a warning. "The whips are considering banning us," says an unscathed MacShane. "But we returned without a dent in our majority."

● *FORMER cabbie Clive Efford MP has extensive knowledge of his colleagues' indiscretions. He will issue a veiled threat in today's* Scrutiny. *"If they have a go at me, I might remind them of one or two destinations I've taken them to..."*

**OLD TIMES**
IN JANUARY the *Sunday Mirror* offered readers a free consultation worth £60 with surgeons from The Transform Medical Group. Now one of its patients has received £20,000 compensation over a liposuction operation that left her disfigured for life.

**NEW TIMES**
KENSINGTON'S top banquette — Lady Antonia Fraser, Bron Waugh, A.N Wilson, Julian Lloyd Webber — are throwing a party. The excuse? To celebrate the launch of Pipedown: The Campaign Against Piped Music. The Diary will send support.


Mad about the man: Kylie Minogue and Judi Dench

**PARTY TIMES**
SENIOR thespians gathered for David Hare's latest masterpiece, *Amy's View*. One discordant note: the play's disgraceful attack on diarists (something about calling people, being nice and then writing beastly things). "Its just a little joke," Hare pleaded, so we shall forgive him. Dame Judi Dench celebrated Hare's grasp of women. "It is a special touch," she said, "only grasped by Hare — and Shakespeare." The crowd at the performance of Noël Coward songs was more junior. Highlight was Marianne Faithfull's rendition of *Mad About The Boy*. "I spent last week at Firefly, Noël's magnificent house in Jamaica to rehearse in the right atmosphere," said Mick Jagger's former playmate. "I was very nervous and I forgot some of the words, which spoilt the show for me." Kylie Minogue said: "If I had to sum up Coward in one word it would be 'wit'." A quality only partly apparent in La Minogue's own rendition. Neil Tennant, the show's producer, concluded: "Noël would have been thrilled and appalled."

THE TIMES DIARY
JASPER GERARD

مكذا من الأصل



# DEMOCRACY'S DEFENDER

## A chastened voice from Enfield with a warning for Europe

On the biggest issue our democracy faces many of the political class are latter-day lotus-eaters. To question the pace and direction of European integration now, to devote energy to opposing the single currency, is to invite from them the rejoinder of Tennyson's mythical slumberers, "why are we weighed upon with heaviness, and utterly consumed with sharp distress?". The issue, we are told, has been put to sleep until after the next election; nothing could be less cool than to question the continuance of Britannia: the fever of euro-scepticism was a symptom of Toryism's slow death, argue the apologists of apathy; now the country can concentrate on other issues. It is a seductive case, but one that poses dangers to the democratic vitality it pretends to advance.

Michael Portillo is a man who knows as well as anyone how the people's verdict can alter a nation's and an individual's direction. Democracy has been a harsh tutor for Mr Portillo, but since May he has proved an eager pupil. This week he mounted the most powerful political case against the single currency made since the general election. He did not need to wrap himself in a Union Jack or unfurl a spread-sheet to make his arguments resound. He simply reminded his audience that power is most responsibly exercised by those directly accountable to a recognisable community.

Mr Portillo argued that Britain has never been indifferent to Europe's welfare and the blood spilt in Flanders is proof enough. The former Defence Secretary also reminded his listeners that, after the horrors of two European wars, Britain did not retreat from its responsibilities and, through Nato and the WEU, shouldered as big a burden as any European nation in guaranteeing the Continent's security.

It is in that spirit of safeguarding Europe's best interests that Mr Portillo gives warning of the single currency's dangers. He recognises, as does Helmut Kohl, that monetary union is a decisive step towards political union. He believes that such a union could not be democratic. As far ahead as one can see, "the peoples of Europe are too different from one another, their histories, cultures and values are too diverse, for them to be brought together into one state". If they are, the inevitable consequence will be disillusion and its wayward child, extremism.

Mr Portillo's most persuasive critics do not discount the dangers that he warns of, but they point out, rightly, that his arguments have not influenced our European partners. The course is set, the currency will come and we must live with the world as it is, not as we would wish it. Whether Britain is in or out, they say, it is in our interests that the currency succeed: so we should join and hope to exercise some influence to the good. Mr Portillo, his critics argue, should know it is better to work from within to influence events with which he is not always in sympathy. After all, why else would he have served in the Major Cabinet?

It is a powerful case, but a flawed one. It is too late to influence the shape of a single currency now, and, in any case, the only influence one would wish to exert after absorbing Mr Portillo's lesson is to stop the whole project. The Titanic is going to set sail and arguing about lifeboats will hardly help.

There are precedents in history for Britain, in pursuit of its own interests and of Europe's, standing aside from continental adventures. After 1815 Britain gradually detached itself from the developing Congress System as it became less a guarantor of peace and more an instrument of repression. As such this country was better placed to advance the cause of democracy and liberty. More recently, and prosaically, the last Tory Government's refusal to sign the Social Chapter allowed this country a more flexible labour market and, by its success, showed a way for the rest of Europe.

A single currency might appear, initially, to "succeed" insamuch as it does not instantly choke some of the world's strongest economies. But, over years, the strains of suppressing democracy in a centralised structure will wreak havoc. It took many years before Yugoslavia and the USSR broke up. It may take many before the single currency's flaws, as devastatingly exposed by Mr Portillo, do their full damage to the European Union. Like the lotus leaf, the single currency is a flawed escape from reality, not an answer to life's challenges.

# LAUREATE LETTERS

## The greatest book by our greatest living writer

If silence is the best answer to calumny, then it is an answer that exacts a price. Ted Hughes is a remarkable artist who, as a young man, married another remarkable artist, Sylvia Plath. It was a romance of passion and poetry, and to read the work which each composed during their time together is to see a rare confluence of interest and influence. Such poetic romances are dotted throughout literary history and have produced great work and, sometimes, tragic ends. Elizabeth Barrett Browning died in her husband Robert's arms; but Shelley's marriage to Harriet collapsed and he fled from England. Two years later Harriet jumped into the Serpentine and drowned.

When Sylvia Plath committed suicide at the age of 30, the embers of her extinguished flame sparked off 30 years of accusation, as critics and biographers sought to lay the blame for her death at the door of the husband they chose to see as deserting her in her hour of need. The life and work and death of Sylvia Plath became a veritable industry, and the poet herself became, in the eyes of much of the world, a martyr to her marriage. Ted Hughes's absolute refusal to speak about her made him, as he wrote to one of her biographers, Anne Stevenson, "a projection post for every worst suspicion". But he wrote to her too that he wished to surround himself, his late wife and his children with "a wall of astral fire" and preserve, in complete privacy, his own thoughts and feelings about Sylvia Plath.

Now, in *Birthday Letters*, he has given voice to those thoughts: 88 poems chart the the course of their relationship from its ardent beginning to its sorrowful end. Narrative, some of them almost conversational in tone, they show Ted Hughes at his most accessible and his most heartfelt. Many are not easy poems to bear; they express a helpless rage against the terrors which taunted Sylvia Plath and against which he could mount no defence. He builds her table, hewn from a broad plank of elm, on which to write: "I did not know/ I had made and fitted a door/ Opening downwards into your Daddy's grave."

For 30 years Sylvia Plath's pain has been public knowledge and, it has often seemed, public property. Now, in an autobiographical sequence that forms the finest work of his life, Ted Hughes brings his own pain into the open. He has taken a risk — and should win full reward.

There is much more than pain in *Birthday Letters*. Over and over again biographers have attempted to raise the ghost of Sylvia Plath. Her own divided voice, cheerful in the letters she wrote to her mother, so often despairing in her journal, has made her an elusive spirit. Now, the Poet Laureate, in revealing himself, has revealed her too, her vibrancy as arresting as when the two young poets first met at a party in Cambridge over 40 years ago. Janet Malcolm entitled her study of the biographical industry surrounding Sylvia Plath *The Silent Woman*; in truth Ted Hughes has been the silent man. Now he is so no longer.

# VIPS IN CLOVER

## Two flew over the porker's nest and signed exclusive contracts

"Someone must have squealed," grunted the Sundance Pig. "Fame in a gilded pigpen is certainly less exciting than that great escape we were interviewed about here on Thursday. But it is more comfortable. What a swill party this is in a safe sty: better than rootling in those dreadful suburbs, oink?"

"By the way, can you make out whether our captors are the *Daily Grunt* or *The Beast*? Both of them are claiming a 'world oinksclusive'. Surely they cannot both be right, even in newspaper logic. That Andy Warthog was right when he said that in the future every pig will be world famous for 15 minutes. A celebrity is a pig that is swill-known for its swill-knownness."

"This feels as public as life under the arc lights in the farrowing cage," snuffled Butch. "Those Gadarene crowds, the television crews, helicopters and reporters waving chequebooks to be grunted an exclusive interview. Man looks down on his dog and up to his cat. But pigs are the only animals that he looks straight in the eye, as equals. I hate being looked at by men, especially by those Cyclops flashbulbs of the piggerazzi. Why are television crews from all over the world filming *us* live for their news programmes? What's the big squeal?"

"You don't understand human pigology," said Sundance. "For the foreign press we embacon the classic English news story. Our adventure combines humour with deadpan eccentricity and preference for animals over children. Foreigners may not take British beef but they adore British porkies. Our escape gratifies English love of puns, freedom and support for the underpig. The media have a feeding frenzy for any old ham on the trotter."

"It feels more like cops and trotters," snuffled the Sundance Pig. "I still don't get it". "I can explain in a pig's whisper," said Butch. "How do humans teach their piglets to count? Why, by a tastless toe game about this little piggy going to market and another one eating cold roast beef. Then the heroine of their greatest saga is a black Berkshire called the Empress of Blandings. Western literature begins with Homeric humans being changed into pigs by a beneficent sorceress. Of course, being humans, they insist on being changed back again. Their most powerful political fable ends with the other animals unable to distinguish between pigs and men. Their best-loved children's story is about Pigling Bland escaping on the way to market. The crest of their best king was a wild boar. Richard III died exclaiming, 'A pig! a pig! my kingdom for a pig!' We are heroes for humans, though they are too pig-headed to recognise our kinship. And now put on your shades. Here comes another press conference. Remember, not a penny under £15,000 for exclusive grunts, but you can make the same deal with each of them."

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

## Change of rules in primary schools

*From Mr Rex Walford*

Sir, The Government's announcement (report and leading article, January 14) that it is changing the rules of the game for primary schoolchildren to concentrate on literacy and numeracy reneges on the clear promise given not to alter the National Curriculum before the year 2000. It also unaccountably ignores the creative possibility of using subjects such as geography, history, music and art as vehicles for literacy and numeracy.

Kenneth Baker reveals in his memoirs, *The Turbulent Years* (Faber & Faber, 1993, pp 196-7), that the original decision to create a "broad and balanced curriculum" of ten subjects, rather than a narrow one based on three, was one of the few defeats in Cabinet suffered by Margaret Thatcher during her premiership.

Baker comments that a curriculum based on three core subjects would be one "more suited to the nineteenth century than the twenty-first . . . if we did not have a full prescribed curriculum we would achieve very little improvement in the overall standards of education."

How ironic and depressing that David Blunkett should now commit new Labour ("education, education, education") to the implementation of the discredited and defeated Thatcherite scheme which, under subsequent Conservative rule, we were fortunate to avoid.

Yours faithfully,
REX WALFORD,
University of Cambridge,
School of Education,
17 Trumpington Street,
Cambridge CB2 1QA.
January 14.

*From Mrs Sandra Allen*

Sir, It seems to me that if primary school teachers now follow the Government's guidelines, putting more emphasis on the three Rs and less on general subjects, they will be doing exactly as they were before the imposition of the National Curriculum.

I wonder just how much money has been spent going around this particular circle?

Yours faithfully,
SANDRA ALLEN,
*2 Clarkes Way,*
Welton, Daventry NN11 5JJ.
*welton@skynet.co.uk*
January 14.

*From Mrs Christine Smith*

Sir, Why not lengthen the school term? There should then be the time for children to be offered the full range of subjects, and the result may be more "rounded" citizens when they become adults.

Yours faithfully,
C. I. SMITH.
36 Artillery Lane, E1 7LS.
January 14.

*From Mr David Fordham*

Sir, It seems our children will be taught all the skills necessary to argue with consummate literacy about nothing in particular (except arithmetic, where words are redundant, and religion, about which all the best arguments, sadly, already belong to the Devil).

Yours truly,
DAVID FORDHAM,
68 The Avenue,
Hatch End, Middlesex HA5 4HA.
January 14.

*From Dr T. H. Hughes-Davies*

Sir, An hour a day with Huckleberry Finn, Prester John, Jim Hawkins or Hornblower will more than compensate for any time lost on curricular history and geography.

Yours sincerely,
T. H. HUGHES-DAVIES,
Slades Cottage, Breamore,
Fordingbridge, Hampshire SP6 2EJ.
January 14.

## As she is spelt

*From Mr Martin Davies*

Sir, Dr Alan Bullock (letter, January 3) points out some examples of misspellings that he has noticed in teletext subtitles. Before your readers judge the service too harshly, I should point out that a large number of subtitled television programmes are broadcast live and many more are completed very close to transmission.

Parts of these programmes are often subtitled live by specially trained writers who use a form of machine-written shorthand to take down speech at up to 230 words per minute. At such high speeds some errors are inevitable, particularly because the system is phonetic.

However, the system enables us to give access to many programmes that would otherwise be impossible to subtitle. Despite the odd "exquisite" mistake enjoyed by Dr Bullock, many of our regular viewers appreciate the difficulties and have learned to laugh with, rather than at us.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN DAVIES
(Assistant Editor, BBC Subtitling),
British Broadcasting Corporation,
201 Wood Lane, W12 7TS.
January 15.

**Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046. e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk***

## Parental devotion to a disabled child

*From Mrs Lesley Prior*

Sir, Matthew Parris ("It's good to be needed", January 9) suggests that only parents of disabled children in the Third World can know the joy of being utterly depended upon, but those of us here with chronically sick children have much in common with his man on the bus in Peru.

All that parent could offer his child was unconditional love and devotion. We in the developed world must of course be grateful that we have access to so much more, but abundant healthcare can often increase rather than reduce a child's dependence on its parents, particularly when complicated and often unpleasant medical procedures have to be carried out at home.

Then the joy of being depended upon can be marred by confusion, guilt and anguish. What is a mother to think when, seconds after causing her son considerable pain, he turns to her and says, "I love you Mummy"? There are times when my son and I would gladly swap places with that man and his daughter on the bus in Peru.

Yours faithfully,
LESLEY PRIOR,
7 Walden Road, Sewards End,
Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 2LE.
*lprior@compuserve.com*

*From Mrs Nicky Whillans*

Sir, Matthew Parris's romantic nonsense must not be allowed to go unchallenged. He undermines the very real relentless burden and stress of caring that many looking after dependants feel.

We have a nine-year-old profoundly handicapped child whose dependence is absolute. Moments of intense love, joy and wonderment (and there have been many over the years) are transient and are always shadowed by that never-ending dependency: she is our albatross. Her dependency renders me personally both dependent (I cannot go out to work) and emotionally vulnerable.

That poor father in Peru does indeed have a nobility, but he must also have dreadful fears for his daughter's future, guilt (that's just part of the package), and a very real sense of his own vulnerability as a result.

Mr Parris should perhaps have simply made "a plea for the vulnerable and the weak in poor countries", and included among them those overburdened by unceasing responsibility.

Yours faithfully,
NICKY WHILLANS,
76 Constance Road,
Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 7JA.
January 10.

*From Miss Mary Castles*

Sir, Matthew Parris paints a somewhat idealised picture of dependence. It is not always so happy and fulfilling for the "props".

For those caring at home for a relative or friend — with, say, Alzheimer's Disease or severe disablement following a stroke — the experience may well be more frustrating than fulfilling, and will almost certainly lead to unimaginable weariness and exhaustion. It's good to be needed, but . . .

Yours faithfully,
MARY A. CASTLES
(Salisbury and District Branch,
Carers National Association),
35 Old Meadows Walk,
West Harnham, Salisbury SP2 8PA.
January 10.

## Priests in the Lords

*From the Bishop of Rochester*

Sir, William Rees-Mogg suggests in his article "Priests need no peerage" (January 8; see also letters, January 7 and 13) that the presence of bishops in the House of Lords is an Erastian graft on "an ancient and respectable secular institution". Nothing could be further from the truth.

The origins of Parliament itself, let alone the House of Lords, lie in the gathering together of bishops and barons with the monarch in Saxon times. Bishops played a notable role in several Parliaments before the Reformation, notably the "Model Parliament" of 1295. They were all, of course, in full communion with the See of Rome.

Rees-Mogg finds the idea of the Pope being a member of the European Parliament "absurd". Perhaps so, but it must be remembered that, until recent times, Popes were temporal rulers of vast territories and, indeed, claimed this as of right.

Even today the Vatican is a State and enjoys access to various international bodies because of this status. The Roman Catholic Church has an "established" position in many lands. Some years ago, the Latin American bishops acknowledged their Church's implication in the structures which oppressed their people and called for repentance.

It is true that being part of a legislature calls for an ability to engage with the issues of the day and to come to an informed mind on these issues in the light of the Scriptures and apostolic tradition. It cannot mean prophesying from the margins and leaving others to take prudential decisions on important moral and other matters.

Engagement is not compromise and it is quite possible to be prophetic whilst being fully involved in the affairs of the nation.

In Christ's service,
†MICHAEL ROFFEN:,
Bishopscourt,
Rochester, Kent ME1 1TS.
January 13.

*From the Reverend G. B. McLoughlin*

Sir, His Eminence Basil Cardinal Hume needs no ennobling by anyone.

As a cardinal of the Holy Roman Church he has already been elevated to the rank of a Prince of the Blood Royal by the oldest sovereignty in the world. That is what cardinals are. That is why they wear the Roman purple and are generally styled in Italy as *I Porporati*.

Yours sincerely,
G. B. McLOUGHLIN,
St Winefride's Church,
15 Well Street,
Holywell, Flintshire CH8 7PL.

*From Mr Antony Chambers*

Sir, Your diarist (January 8) quoted canon law as forbidding clerics to assume public office, in relation to the suggestion that Cardinal Hume be elevated to the Lords.

As a precedent, in 1958 a brother monk of the Cardinal's, Father Gabriel Gilbey, took his (inherited) seat as Lord Vaux of Harrowden to speak on youth issues. When the then Abbot of Ampleforth, Herbert Byrne (Abbot Hume's predecessor), was questioned by the press on the advisability of this, he replied that he didn't see any problem as he understood the House of Lords to be a perfectly respectable institution.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY CHAMBERS.
The Lake House,
Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9DB.
January 13.

## Anonymity in court

*From Professor Nigel Walker*

Sir, Mr Christopher Drew (letter, January 13) makes an excellent case for the anonymity in court of those accused of sexual offences prior to conviction.

New Zealand experimented some thirty years ago with such a law for anonymity for suspects of any kind; it worked well, but was repealed as a result of opposition by the news media.

In 1982 I put a similar proposal to the parliamentary all-party penal affairs group (chairman, Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk).

The essence of the proposal was that all suspects be protected from being identified by the news media (just as juvenile suspects are), unless and until they are convicted; exceptions would be allowed by order of a judge, at the request either of the suspect himself or of the police, if they had specially cogent reasons.

The group refused to take my proposal seriously.

I am, Sir, etc,
NIGEL WALKER,
University of Cambridge,
Institute of Criminology,
West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DT.
January 14.

## Fleeing pigs

*From Mrs Heather Berger*

Sir, I once owned Tamworth pigs and spent many hours recapturing escapers (report, "Net closes in on Tamworth two", January 16). Generally a bag of pignuts soon did the trick, but then we didn't have paparazzi in attendance.

One dark, misty night some years ago a light aircraft crash-landed on the hill behind our Perthshire farm, fortunately without accident. Staggering down the hill, the pilot and his companion encountered our two Tamworth sows. Patience and Polly, clearly hopeful that breakfast had arrived unexpectedly early.

Our village school broadsheet, *The Primary Press*, ran the story under a bold headline: "Crashed airmen terrorized by herd of wild pigs".

Yours sincerely,
HEATHER BERGER.
Kirkton Craig,
Abernyte, Perthshire PH14 9ST.

## In happier times

*From Mrs Jill Allen*

Sir, Mr R. G. Tudor (letter, January 7) suggests that new year's resolutions would have more chance of success if embarked on when the weather was more clement, ie, at the start of British Summer Time.

I think the start of Lent is the time. The chocolates have mysteriously disappeared, the booze stocks are depleted, the parties are over, and even the Stilton has been finished off.

Even if the resolutions are broken after Easter, the flexing of willpower in the meantime has all the satisfaction of a challenge successfully met.

Yours faithfully,
JILL ALLEN,
669 Chorley New Road,
Lostock, Bolton BL6 4AG.
*jallen669@aol.com*
January 14.

**Weekend Money letters, page 6!**

## The rich mosaic of musical life

*From Mrs Ruth Hellen*

Sir, You rightly state that participative music in the UK is "a rich mosaic" (leading article, "Future scores", January 10). The figure of 600,000 people involved in amateur music is, in fact, conservative; this estimate, provided by the National Music Council, does not include people making music in schools, colleges and churches, who would bring the total to nearer one million.

One of the reasons for this happy state of affairs is the contribution of public music libraries, which lend approximately three million vocal scores and orchestral parts to choirs and orchestras around the country each year. Without this specialist service many amateur organisations would be unable to perform such an enormous range of music. Some would collapse completely without this support.

The Gulbenkian report, *Joining In*, indicates that public music libraries are in an ideal position to act as music information "one-stop shops", a commendable vision that is clouded by reality. Music libraries, in common with musical activities in schools, are constantly under threat from cuts and restructuring, with the loss of knowledgeable staff and "rationalisation" of services.

You ask what the Government task force can do to improve our musical life: one answer is to encourage local authorities to create more, not fewer, specialist music libraries and librarians.

Yours faithfully,
RUTH HELLEN
(President-elect,
International Association of
Music Libraries, Archives and
Documentation Centres, UK Branch),
30 King James Avenue,
Cuffley, Hertfordshire EN6 4LR.
January 12.

*From the Headteacher of North Westminster Community School*

Sir, You are completely right: as a country "we are failing to nurture" tomorrow's performers and audiences. The three most serious problems, even in schools deeply committed to including a vigorous musical education in the curriculum, are:

1. The balance of what Benjamin Britten called the "trinity of composing, performing and listening" is difficult to get right. Many young people listen to too little and from too limited a range of genres, cultures and periods.

2. The contribution of music to other studies is often missing. For instance, although the National Curriculum instances the use of music as part of the "range of sources of information", it is rarely included. Very depressingly, few boys are taught dance courses — a significant source of access to music.

3. Raising funds for instrumental tuition is a constant battle. Here, the North Westminster Saturday Music School has no official funds. If it were not for the generosity of, for instance, the Britten-Pears Foundation and Tina Turner there would be even fewer performers for the future.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL MARLAND.
*Headteacher,*
North Westminster Community School,
Marylebone Lower House,
Penfold Street, NW1 6RX.
January 10.

## So there

*From Mr James S. Barnett*

Sir, Today you report Ms Vivienne Parry ("Diana trustees defend law firm in fees furore") as saying: "You can't expect to pop into a local high street solicitors and ask them to do international copyright law."

Well, you can, in Hungerford.

Yours sincerely,
JAMES S. BARNETT
(Solicitor),
Merlin House, Church Street,
Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 0JG.
January 16.

## Just lucky?

*From Mr Mike Morrison*

Sir, Susan Pease (letter, January 6; see also letters, January 10) asks what to call a man being kept by a younger woman. A Sanatogent?

Yours faithfully,
MIKE MORRISON,
16a Oakleigh Close,
Whetstone, N20 0RT.
January 12.

*From Mr Marcus Pearce*

Sir, An optimist.

Yours faithfully and optimistically,
MARCUS PEARCE,
East Anglian Chambers,
57 London Street,
Norwich, Norfolk NR2 1HL.
January 7.

*From Mr M. Askin*

Sir, After a few weeks you could call him an ambulance.

Yours faithfully,
M. ASKIN,
27 St James Drive,
Horsforth, Leeds LS8 5QZ.
January 10.

# COURT CIRCULAR

ST JAMES'S PALACE
January 16: The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, today visited Duchy tenants and properties at Newton St Loe, Bath, and attended a meeting of the Duchy of Cornwall's Agricultural Committee.

## Major General J.A. McIlvenna

A High Mass of Requiem in the traditional Roman rite will be celebrated for Major General J.A. McIlvenna, CB, at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, London WC2, on Saturday, January 24, 1998, at 12.30pm.

## Luncheon

**Lord Carter**
Lord Carter was the host at the annual luncheon of the Institute of Agricultural Management held yesterday at the House of Lords. The Earl of Selborne, president, was in the chair.

Lord Donoughue, United Kingdom spokesman for Agriculture and Minister for Farming and the Food Industry, was the principal speaker.

## Hertfordshire Lieutenancy

Mr Nicholas Guy Halsey and Lady Staughton have been appointed Deputy Lieutenants for the County of Hertfordshire.

## Appointments

**British Red Cross**
The following have been appointed board members of the British Red Cross:
Sir David Barnes, Baroness Chalker of Wallasey and Mr Peter Smallridge.

## University news

**Anglia Polytechnic University**
Mr Edward Grayson has been appointed Visiting Professor of Sport and the Law to the Anglia Sports Law Research Centre at Anglia Polytechnic University.

# School news

**Dean Close School**
The Governors of Dean Close School are pleased to announce the *appointment* of the Rev Timothy M. Hastie-Smith as Headmaster from September 1, 1998, upon the retirement of Mr Christopher Bacon after 19 years distinguished service to the School.

**Giggleswick School**
The Easter Term at Giggleswick began on Monday and ends on Saturday, March 21. Mrs W. Jennings, MA, and Mr P.J.S. Thompson, LLB, have been elected to the Governors. Mr Graham Smallbone, MA, has been appointed Music Consultant. The Scholarship Week begins on Monday, February 2. The Old Giggleswickians XV will play the Anti-Assassins on Sunday, February 22, and Scarrig will be run on Saturday, February 28. The Old Giggleswickians' London Dinner will be held at the House of Commons on Wednesday, February 25, when Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare will be the Chief Guest. The Old Giggleswickian Club Annual Dinner will be held at School on Saturday, March 21. The "Dream Tour" to *the USA will take place in the* Easter Holiday with performances by the Jazz Choir and the Dramatic Society's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Further details on all these events can be obtained from the Headmaster's Secretary on 01729 823545.

## Latest wills

Air Commandant Dame Jean **Conan Doyle** (Lady Bromet), of London SW1, daughter of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes, left estate valued at £1,867,361 net.
*She left three Sherlock Holmes story* manuscripts to each of the following at her trustees' discretion: the British Library, a museum in Edinburgh, and a museum in Portsmouth or Southsea; six manuscripts of her late father's published works to be sold and the proceeds shared between RAF Benevolent Fund, Not Forgotten *Association, RAF Association, Help* the Hospices, Distressed Gentlefolks Aid Association, and Royal Star and Garter Home; to the British Library she also left other letters written by her father along with original papers etc; the RNIB to receive copyrights and rights in the published work of her father in the USA: £1,000 to *Minstead Church, near Lyndhurst*, Hampshire.

Sir Gilbert **Longden**, of London W8, left estate valued at £260,330 net.

Mr Alan Spencer **Babb**, of Sidmouth, Devon, left estate valued at £1,101,184 net.

Kathleen Nora **Beetham**, of Fulwood, Preston, left estate valued at £1,398,778 net.
She left one third of her estate to St Catherines Hospice, Preston, Derian *House, Children's Hospice of* Chorley, British Diabetic Association, RAF Benevolent Fund, Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, and the RNLI.


MARTIN BEDDALL

George Cooke and Joanna Corse, of Wimbledon, London, who have recently announced their engagement

# Lost dynasty of kings identified

BY NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

A LOST dynasty of Philistine kings and the site of one of their capitals have been identified from an inscription found in Israel. Two of the kings are also known from Assyrian records, anchoring the dynasty in the 8th and 7th centuries BC and linking it with the famous Mesopotamian rulers Sennacherib and Esarhaddon.

The inscription was found at Tel Miqne, some 23 miles southwest of Jerusalem, and confirms its identification as ancient Ekron, one of five capitals of Philistia in biblical times. Consisting of five lines of text on a limestone slab, the inscription concerns a temple built for Ptgyh, a previously unknown goddess, by Achish or Ikausu the king.

Ikausu was one of 12 rulers of the Levantine coastal region who supplied building materials to Nineveh for the palace of the Assyrian ruler Esarhaddon (680-669BC), and is also listed among those who participated in Ashurbanipal's first campaign against Egypt in 667BC. In the Ekron inscription he describes himself as the son of Padi, a king mentioned in acccounts of the Assyrian Sennacherib's war of 701BC; Padi is also named on a clay sealing from a cloth sack of 699BC, recording payment of a light talent (about 67.5lbs) of silver, perhaps as tax or tribute to Sennacherib.

Ikausu also names three earlier generations of kings of Ekron beginning with Ya'ir and follwed by Ada and Ysd, the last being Padi's father; these rulers are previously unknown, and "provide an historical context for the site's archaeology from the 8th through most of the first half of the 7th century BC," according to Dr Seymour Gitin and his colleagues. Writing in *Archaeology*, they note that this agrees with the archaeological dating for the temple where the inscriptions were found.

# Weekend birthdays

TODAY: Mr Muhammad Ali, boxer, 56; Sir William Benyon, farmer, 68; Sir John Boyd, Master, Churchill College, Cambridge, 62; Miss Edith Butcher, former Principal, Bishop Grosseteste College, Lincoln, 96; Sir Malcolm Chaplin, chartered surveyor, 64; Sir Michael Clapham, former chairman, IMI, 80; Sir Mervyn Davies, former High Court judge, 80; Sir Edward Fennessy, radar pioneer, 86; Mrs Monica Furlong, writer, 68; Mr Neil W. Gamble, Headmaster, *Exeter School*, 55; Mr Paul Howell, former MEP, 47; Mr James Earl Jones, actor, 67; Mr Anthony Kenney, obstetrician and gynaecologist, 56; the Right Rev Nigel McCulloch, Bishop of Wakefield, 56; Mr Ken Minton, chairman, John Mowlem and Company, 61; Sir Geoffrey Pattie, marketing director, GEC, 62; Professor W.B. Robertson, histopathologist, 75; Mr Vidal Sassoon, hair stylist, 70; Miss Moira Shearer, ballerina, 72; Mr Denis Tunnicliffe, managing director, London Underground, 55; Sir Clyde Walcott, KA, cricketer, 72; Dame Gillian Weir, organist, 57; Mr Paul Young, singer, 42.

*TOMORROW: Chief Emeka* Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary-General, 65; Air Marshal Sir Alfred Ball, 77; Mr Peter Beardsley, footballer, 37; Dr David Bellamy, botanist, writer and broadcaster, 65; Sir Michael Bett, former chairman, Social Security Advisory Committee, 63; Mr John Boorman, film director, 65; Mr Raymond Briggs, illustrator, 64; Professor M.J. Brown, clinical pharmacologist, 47; Mr David Burke, Chief Constable, North Yorkshire, 59; Mr J.R. Carr, former chairman, Countryside Commission of Scotland, 71; Mr Kevin Costner, actor, 43; the Hon Sir Rocco Forte, 53; Lord Goodhart, QC, 65; Mr D.J. Grant, former Lord-Lieutenant of Co Durham, 76; Sir James Hann, former chairman, Scottish Nuclear, 65; Sir William Harding, diplomat, 71; Sir Robert Hicks, former MP, 60; Lord Higgins, 70; Mr John Hougham, chairman, *Acas*, 61; *Lord Howell* of Guildford, 62; Mr John Hume, MP, MEP, 61; Mr Edward James, former diplomat, 81; Dame Jennifer Jenkins, former chairman, National Trust, 77; Mr Paul *Keating, former Prime Minister of* Australia, 54; Sir Martin Laing, chairman, John Laing, 56; Sir Godfray Le Quesne, QC, former chairman, Monopolies and Mergers Commission, 74; Sir Nigel Strutt, former chairman, Strutt and Parker (Farms), 82; Sir Walter Verco, former secretary, Order of the Garter, 91; Sir Ralph Verney, landowner, 83; Sir Clive Whitmore, civil servant, 63.

# Weekend anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Leonard Fuchs, physician and botanist, Wembdingen, *Germany*, 1501; Pedro Calderón de la Barca, dramatist and poet, Madrid, 1600; Thomas Fairfax, 3rd Baron Fairfax of Cameron, parliamentary commander in the Civil War, Denton, Yorkshire, 1612; *Benjamin Franklin*, statesman, scientist and printer, Boston, Massachusetts, 1706; George Lyttleton, 1st Baron Lyttleton, statesman, historian and poet, Hagley, Worcestershire, 1709; Vittorio Alfieri, poet, Piedmont, Italy, 1749; Sir James Hall, geologist, Dunglass, Lothian, 1761; Charles Kean, actor, Waterford, Co Waterford, 1811; August Weismann, geneticist, Frankfurt am Main, 1834; David Lloyd George, 1st Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, Prime Minister 1916-22, Manchester, 1863; Konstantin Stanislavsky, co-founder of the Moscow Art Theatre, Moscow, 1863; David Beatty, 1st Earl Beatty, Admiral of the Fleet, Nantwich, Cheshire, 1871; Mack Sennett, film producer and creator of the Keystone Cops, Richmond, Quebec, 1880; Sir Compton Mackenzie, novelist, West Hartlepool, 1883; Ronald Firbank, novelist, London, 1886.

DEATHS: John Ray, naturalist, Black Notley, Essex, 1705; Rutherford B. Hayes, 19th American President 1877-81, Fremont, Ohio, 1893; Charles Marie de Lisle, poet, Paris, 1894; Frederic William Myers, poet and co-founder of the Society of Psychical Research, Rome, 1901; Sir Francis Galton, explorer and anthropologist, Haslemere, Surrey, 1911; T.H. White, novelist, Piraeus, Greece, 1964.

The BBC introduced breakfast television to British homes, 1983.
Captain Cook's *Resolution* crossed the Antarctic Circle, the first ship *to do so*, 1773.

TOMORROW
BIRTHS: Charles Louis de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu, philosopher, Bordeaux, 1689; Peter Mark Roget, lexicographer, 1779; Joseph Farwell Glidden, farmer, inventor of barbed wire, 1813; Sir Edward Frankland, chemist, Churchtown, Lancashire, 1825; Alexis Chabrier, composer, Amert, France, 1841; Matthew Webb, first English Channel swimmer, Dawley, Shropshire, 1848; Rubén Darío, poet, Metapa, Nicaragua, 1867; A.A. Milne, children's writer and dramatist, London, 1882; Arthur Ransome, author, 1884; *Antoine Pevsner, sculptor, Orël*, Russia, 1886; Cary Grant, actor, Bristol, 1904; Danny Kaye, actor, Brooklyn, 1913.

DEATHS: Jan van Riebeck, surgeon and founder of Cape Town, Jakarta, Indonesia, 1677; Sir John Pringle, physician and President of the Royal Society 1772, London, 1782; John Tyler, 10th American President 1841-45, Richmond, Virginia, 1862; Edward Bulwer-Lytton, 1st Baron Lytton, novelist and politician, Torquay, 1873; Rudyard Kipling, first British writer to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature, 1907, London, 1936; Sir Cecil Beaton, photographer, Broad Chalke, Wiltshire, 1980.
Captain Cook discovered the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii), 1778.
William of Prussia was proclaimed as the 1st German Emperor, 1871.
Captain Robert Scott and his expedition arrived at the South Pole, 1912.
The Versailles Peace conference opened, 1919.

# Dinners

**Field Marshal Lord Vincent of Coleshill**
Field Marshal Lord Vincent of *Coleshill* entertained members of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London and their guests at dinner last night at the House of Lords. Sir Anthony Grant, master of the guild, also spoke.

**Arbitrators Company**
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and the Sheriffs and their ladies, received a cheque for his appeal in aid of the British Diabetic Association and the National Children's Homes from Mr Ian Menzies, Master of the Arbitrators' Company, at a dinner held last night at the Mansion House. Mr Michael Hinton, Senior Warden, and Lord Mustill also spoke. The Lord Chief Justice, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, Lord Goff of Chieveley and Sir Alan Cockshaw were among the guests.

**The Association of Anaesthetists**
The Winter Dinner of the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain and Ireland was held last night at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, at the end of the 1998 Winter Scientific Meeting, held at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre. Dr W.L.M. Baird, President, and Mrs Baird welcomed the guests who included:
Dr Margaret Branthwaite, Dr J Cowan (President, Canadian Anaesthetists' Society), and Mrs Cowan, Mr R Owen, QC, and Mrs Owen, Dr W D Owens (President, American Society of Anesthesiologists), and Mrs Owens, Professor L Scrunin (President, Royal College of Anaesthetists), and Mrs Scrunin, Dr W R Thompson (President, Australian Society of Anaesthetists), Professor M D A Vickers (President, WFSA), and Mrs Vickers, Professor C Prys-Roberts (Dimmelis Health Care Lecturer), and Mrs Prys-Roberts, Sir Rodney and Lady Sweetman, Sir Gordon and Lady Robson, Dr and Mrs J F Nunn, Professor and Mrs M Rosen, Dr and Mrs A I J Brain, Sir Norman and Lady Browse, Dr W P Blunnie (Dean, Faculty of Anaesthetists, RCSI), and Mrs Blunnie, and Dr and Mrs C J Clough.

# Service appointment

Air Vice-Marshal P.O. Sturley to be Air Officer Commanding No 38 Group and Senior Air Staff Officer Headquarters Strike Command.

# Forthcoming marriages

**Mr R.C. Bailhache and Miss N. N. Parikh**
The engagement is announced between Robert Clement, eldest son of Sir Philip Bailhache, of Jersey, and Mrs Christine Walker, of Oxford, and Neha Naishadh, only daughter of Dr and Mrs Naishadh Parikh, of Kemps Corner, Bombay.

**Mr S. Bell and Miss A. Stokes-Roberts**
The forthcoming marriage is announced between Stuart, son of Mr and Mrs R. Bell, of Landbeach, Cambridge, and Amanda, only daughter of the late Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs L. Stokes-Roberts, of Putney, London.

**Mr I.C. Bywater and Miss R. Briggs**
The engagement is announced between Ian Bywater, of Kirkbean, Dumfries, and Rachel Briggs, of Winchester.

***Mr J.M. Duckworth* and Miss M.E. Mead**
The engagement is announced between James, elder son of Mr and Mrs Milton Duckworth, of East Morton, Keighley, West Yorkshire, and Mary, younger daughter of Mrs Susan Mead, of Grays, Essex.

**Mr A.P.N. Fullman and Miss A.J. Fleener**
The engagement is announced between Adrian, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Fullman, of Canterbury, Kent, and Allison, youngest daughter of the late Mr Jimmie Fleener and of Mrs Janet Fleener, of Sible Hedingham, Essex.

**Mr A.A.J. Fyfe *and Miss A. Bosancic***
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Brigadier and Mrs Alastair Fyfe, of Seavington St Michael, Somerset, and Aleksandra, daughter of Mr and Mrs Zivko Bosancic, of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

**Mr P.B. Knox and Miss A.M.L. Bamelis**
The engagement is announced between Patrick, elder son of Mr and Mrs Robert Knox, of Morningside, Edinburgh, and Ann, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs Pol Bamelis, of Leverkusen, Germany.

**Mr B.J. Masefield and Miss J.E. Hansen**
The engagement is announced between Brent, only son of Mr M.H. White, of Gisborne, New Zealand, and Mrs I.M. Masefield, of Waitakaruru, New Zealand, and Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs M.O. Hansen, of Te Aroha, New Zealand.

**Mr S.G. Merson and Miss N.J. Allison**
The engagement is announced between Simon, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Richard Merson, of Mongewell, Oxfordshire, and Nicola, only daughter of Mrs Allison and the late Mr John Allison, of Walderton, West Sussex.

**Mr P.J. Howard and Miss N.C. Hallé**
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Howard, of Shenfield, Essex, and Nicole, daughter of Mr and Mrs Victor Hallé, of Great Horkesley, Essex.

**Mr C.J. Muir and Miss N.J. Stewart**
The engagement is announced between Christopher, youngest son of Dr and Mrs Basil Muir, of Trentishoe, North Devon, and Nicola (Bish), daughter of Mrs Sue Stewart, of Kirtlington, Oxfordshire, and the late Mr Alan Stewart.

**Mr P.W. Platts and Miss F.M. Jobson**
The engagement is announced between Phillip, son of Mrs Gill Langford and the late Mr Robert James Platts, of Doncaster, South Yorkshire, and Fiona, daughter of Mr Peter Jobson, of Hardwick, Buckinghamshire, and Mrs Jill Knight, of Towersey, Oxfordshire.

**Mr J.A. Roch and Miss L.K. Nisbet**
The engagement is announced between James, youngest son of Mr and Mrs A.M. Roch, of London, and Lucy, daughter of Mr R. Nisbet and Ms C.J. Howard, of London.

**Mr D.J.P. Rosling and Miss E.C. Collett**
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr Derek Rosling, of Beaulieu, Hampshire, and Mrs Joan Rosling, of Mayford, Surrey, and Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Collett, of Bramley, Surrey.

**Mr A.C. Stoneham and Miss S.L. Evered**
The engagement is announced between Alan, son of Mr and Mrs *Peter Stoneham*, of Ashton Keynes, Wiltshire, and Susanna, younger daughter of Dr and Mrs David Evered, of Checkendon, Oxfordshire.

**Mr A.R. Tucker *and Miss A.J. Jones***
The engagement is announced between Anthony Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Philip Robin Tucker, of Kilmeston, Hampshire, and Amelia Josephine, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Godfrey Jones, of Bownham, Gloucestershire.

# Marriage

**Mr M.G. Livingstone and Mrs J.M. Cohen**
The marriage took place on January 7, 1998, at St Thomas of Canterbury, Sevenoaks, between Michael Gordon Livingstone and Judith Mary Cohen. Nuptial Mass was celebrated by *Canon John* Bailey, assisted by Mgr Michael Cornelly and the Rev Peter Bird.
The bride and groom were attended by all their children and grandchildren.

# Church news

**Appointments**
The Rev Stephen Liddle, Priest-in-Charge, Byker St Michael and St Lawrence (Newcastle): to be Vicar, Bothal and Pegswood w Longhirst (same diocese).
The Rev Philip Norwood, Vicar, Spalding (Lincoln): to be Rector, Blakeney w Cley, Wiveton, Glandford and Letheringsett (Norwich).
The Rev Karen Pitt, Curate, Walton on the Hill St Mary (Liverpool): to be Priest-in-Charge, Warrington St Barnabas (same diocese).
Canon Andy Radford, Development and Training Officer, Communications Unit of the General Synod, Church House: to be Archbishops' Advisor for Bishops' Ministry.
The Rev William Robson, Vicar, Barton Stacey and Bullington and Hurstbourne Priors and Longparish (Winchester): to be Curate, Knaresborough (Ripon).
The Rev Kevin Roberts, Vicar, Meole Brace (Lichfield): to be also Rural Dean of Shrewsbury.




*Ready for Gulf War action: Royal Scots Fusiliers in a trench at the front in Saudi Arabia*

## Allies launch massive air attack against Baghdad

WAR erupted in the Gulf just before midnight when the US-led allied forces launched an air strike on Baghdad, throughout Iraq and in occupied Kuwait.

Operation Desert Storm had begun at 9.50pm London time. Air defence batteries were the first targets hit by American and British bombers. Richard Cheney, the US defence secretary, said that Kuwaiti planes had taken part in the offensive.

US F15E and RAF Tornado GRIs were involved in the first strike, supported by Saudi F15 interceptors.

*Three and a half hours after the operation* began, a Saudi official confirmed that all American, British, Saudi and Kuwaiti aircraft had returned home safely from the initial raids. Oil refineries close to the centre of the Iraqi capital, and one five miles away, were hit in five waves of bombing in the first hour.

A communication centre in Baghdad was bombed, and reports said other targets were around Saddam international airport outside the city and at Scud ballistic missile sites north and west of Baghdad. Some of the missiles were targeted on Israel.

*Iraqi positions in Kuwait were hit by* missiles from American and British bombers.

## ON THIS DAY

### January 17, 1991

*Seven years ago* The Times *reported the start of the Gulf War with banner headlines on the front page, a 4am late news flash and four more pages of reports and analysis inside*

Iraqi missiles were detected heading for an area around *Bahrain and eastern Saudi* Arabia early today but fell short of their targets, Bahrain authorities said.

The United Nations Security Council was expected to meet informally early this morning. The UN deadline for the Iraqis to withdraw from Kuwait or face attack had expired more than 19 hours before the raids started.

Within the first 90 minutes there were no reported hits on American or British aircraft. An air-raid alarm was sounded throughout Saudi Arabia because of fears of retaliatory air attacks, *but nothing materialised*.

The outbreak of hostilities was announced in Washington by Marlin Fitzwater, the White House spokesman, who said: "I have a statement from the United States. The liberation of Kuwait has begun. In conjunction with the forces of our coalition partners, the United States has begun, under the codename Operation Desert Storm, to enforce the mandate of the United Nations Security Council."

President Bush relayed details of the attack to John Major in a telephone call. Later Mr Bush said on television that the United States was determined to destroy Iraq's nuclear potential and its arsenal of chemical weapons. President Saddam Hussein had systematically raped, pillaged and plundered a tiny nation of no threat to Iraq. "Kuwait will once again be free," he declared.

The Saudis said that the air raids covered targets "all over Iraq" and were not confined to Baghdad. A total of 150 Saudi aircraft were involved in supporting the raids.

American bombers were reported to have destroyed ballistic missile sites in the west of Iraq, where weapons were targeted on Israel. The missiles, al-Hussein and al-Abbas, are Scud B derivatives with an extended range, capable of reaching targets up to 560 miles away, threatening Tel Aviv and other Israeli areas. The first wave of bombers included RAF Tornado GRIs which took off from their base at Muharrak in Bahrain just after 11pm.

# PERSONAL COLUMN

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000
TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

The hope of the righteous blossoms; the expectation of the wicked withers away. The righteous suit words to the occasion the wicked know only subversive talk. Proverbs 10 : 28,32.

## BIRTHS

**BERMINGHAM** - On January 9th 1998, to Emma (née Bowman) and David, a daughter, Jemima Rose.

**BRIGGS** - On January 11th at The Portland Hospital, to Sophia (née Christodoulou) and David, a son, Stefan.

**BUCKLEY** - On January 13th, to Rebecca and William, a son, Thomas Wilfred McLean.

**DEACON** - On 5th January 1998, to Tania (née Hodson) and Guy, a son, Wilfred Michael.

**DEMETRIOU** - On January 15th at The Portland Hospital, to Susan (née Hirstman) and Theo, a daughter, Elena Elisabeth, a sister for Andreas.

**HARRISON** - On December 31st 1997 at Pembury Hospital, to Susan (née Haluschak) and Nicholas, a son, Josiah Augustus Wynne.

**HEARN** - On 26th December 1997, to Pippa (née Greany) and David, a son, George David.

**HYMAN** - At University College Hospital on 29th December 1997 to Elsya (née Speechly-Dick) and Keith, a son, George Gabriel, a brother for Charles.

**LEBUS** - On January 5th, to Sarah-Jane and Mark, a daughter, Genevieve Amy.

**MASTERS** - On 14th January 1998 at U.C.H., to Lesli and Boyd, a son, Lewis Allen.

**MATURI BAILEY** - On 12th January, to Luisa and Nick, another gorgeous son, William James at Harrogate General Hospital, a brother for Thomas.

**OULTON** - On January 6th, to Richard and Joanna, a daughter. O fortunata nata, Theo fratre, Romey.

**ROCK** - On January 12th 1998 at the University Hospital of Wales, to Patricia and Albert, a son, Benny Albert Edward.

**SMITH** - On January 15th 1998, to Beatrice (née Maistrott de Broe) and Stephen, a son, Bruno, a brother for Charlotte.

**SOMERVILLE** - On January 15th 1998, to Jennifer (née McCabe) and Peter, a son, a brother for Luna and Jack.

## DEATHS

**BARTHOLOMEW** - Jean, widow of Kenneth, much loved mother of Martin and Stephen and adored grandmother of Amy and Owen, died peacefully on 13th January. Funeral and *Service of Thanksgiving at* St Mary's, Long Crendon on 22nd January at 2 pm. All enquiries to P.J. Wilson (01844) 291200.

**BORTHWICK** - Jason Borthwick DSC of Bamcaster Staithe, Norfolk, born 1st November 1910, died 15th January 1998 after a short illness. The dearly loved father of Josephine, Rosalind, Alister and Celia, also grandfather and great-grandfather. Family cremation at 1 pm, Mintlyn, followed by Thanksgiving Service at 3pm, St Mary's Church, Burnham Deepdale on Wednesday 21st January 1998. No flowers please. Donations to Royal British Legion and St Mary's Church, Burnham Deepdale.

**CAFEL** - Austin Robina (Bobbie) of Chipstable in her 99th year. Widow of Air Vice Marshal A.J. Capel and of Flight Lieutenant H.M. Moody. Youngest child of Charles and Laetitia Horn of Adelaide, South Australia. Much loved mother of Dick, Robin and Anne, dear grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral All Saints Church, Chipstable, Friday 30th January at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to RAF Benevolent Fund c/o James Funeral Directors, Ford Street, Wiveliscombe, TA4 2PN.

**HARLEN** - Pamela (née Lascot) died peacefully on December 17th. Our loving mother, she will be greatly missed by her two sons Jeremy and Jonathan and by her grandchildren Joshua and Danielle and all her family and friends. Her kindness and strength are a light to us all. May her soul rest in peace.

**LONGLEY** - On 8th January 1998 Patricia, formerly Chief Interpreter of UNESCO, former Executive Secretary and Treasurer of AIIC (The International Association of Conference Interpreters), remembered with affection and gratitude by her many colleagues world-wide and pupils from the Polytechnic of Central London (now University of Westminster) whom she initiated into the conference interpreting profession.

**MATHAWAY** - Diana Vennables (née Kyrke), peacefully at the Royal Berkshire Hospital on Monday 12th January. Dearly loved mother of John, Jill, the late David, and James, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Lord Harris Court Chapel, Sindlesham on Thursday 22nd January at 2pm, followed by private cremation. No flowers. Donations if desired for the "R.N.L.I." or the "R.M.B.I." may be sent to A.R. Walker & Son Ltd., 36 Eldon Road, Reading, RG1 4DL.

**EADIE** - James Jaraney. On 14th January 1998, unexpectedly but peacefully at home. Very dearly loved husband of Jennifer, beloved father and Gramp. Private family cremation; A Thanksgiving gathering of all his family and friends will be held in February. No flowers please, but donations to The British Heart Foundation would be most welcome. All enquiries c/o David Eadie, telephone (0181) 871-1605.

**FORREST** - On 16th January 1998 after a short illness, *Molly (Mary Frances Alford)* aged 92. Dear wife of the late Dewys, mother of Juliet, grandmother of Frances and Simon, proud great-grandmother of Tom, Alex, Max, Rebecca and Fergus. Enquiries to Hanningtons F/D, tel: (01273) 778733.

**MATHESON** - Jean Cacely May, on 14th January 1998, widow of Patrick Hugh Matheson and formerly Jean Keith Matheson. Funeral St John's Church, Peterborough at 2.30 pm on Monday 19th January 1998.

**RICH** - Jean, aka "Jeenie Peanut" and "Sheppie", died spalling in St Michael's Hospice on Wednesday 14th January 1998 at 10.10 am after a courageous fight against cancer. A wonderful mother and friend to her son, David. And friend to many. Funeral Service at St Augustine's Chapel, Hastings at 11 am on 22nd January, followed by committal at Hastings Crematorium at 12 noon. No flowers by request, but donations would be appreciated for St Michael's Hospice c/o Towner Funeral Directors, 19 Market Square, *Battle, TN33 0XE*, tel: (01424) 775515.

## MEMORIAL SERVICES

**TIMMS** - The Venerable George Boorne. A Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday 28th January at 11 am at St Andrew's Church, Holborn Circus, London EC4. Buffet luncheon to follow. Please advise numbers to 0171 353 3644.

## IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

**BAILEY** - Jonathan BSc RICS. Remembering our beloved son on his 38th birthday.

**OWEN** - Jason Matthew Dale, aged five, of Penarth, Darling youngest son of Maureen and now the late Dale Owen, brother of Justin and Julian. Died tragically, in Cardiff Royal Infirmary, after six weeks suffering, courageously endured, 17th January 1984 from Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (H.U.S.). Jason said, in the Infirmary, "I like to be nice to people". A shining example for all.

## BIRTHDAYS

**BATES** TERRACE J. Dental Surgeon. Congratulations on your 60th Birthday. I shall always regard you as my best friend. Best wishes to Doris and the rest of the family, John, Elaine and Jason, Haytron-Benjamin and all members of the Haytron-Benjamin family.

**SARAH LAYTON** (Lovely) Happy Birthday. Have a wonderful evening. With love from all of your friends.

## SERVICES

**LET** the experts help you to know your Ancestors. Write Achievements founded 1961, Northgate, Canterbury, CT1 1BA75.

## WANTED

**PARIS** Five Nations 8 tickets. Personal use by genuine O.F.'s. Call Mr. Bullock on 01482 323697.

**BUST WANTED TO PURCHASE URGENTLY OF HAROLD MACMILLAN.**
**ALSO REWARD TO FINDER.**
Dealers or anyone welcome
**01245 604064**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GUILDCRAFT** Community centres, a Fourth Way school now accepting students 0181 347 5383.

## TICKETS FOR SALE

**ROYAL OPERA** Four stalls available, reduced prices. Manon, Cinderella, Di Tito 5th March. Tel:01444 482381

**5 NATIONS RUGBY**
**FRANCE**
**v**
**ENGLAND**
Stade de France, Paris
Fully Inclusive 3 day tour (6-8 Feb) from £385 pp
David Dryer Sports Tours
Tel: 0171 631 7799
ATOL

## FOR SALE

**A BIRTHDATE** Newspaper. Original. Superbly presented. Peoplebase 0800 904409

**YORK, PENNANT**, slate, limestone & terracotta flagstones & floor tiles. Cobble setts, stone troughs, masonry service. Visit & Internet det. Shelley Hassall 01380 850039 (White)

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

**PORTUGAL** & Canaries. All areas. Villas/apts., hotels, pousadas, golf hols, flights. Longmere Int'l. 0181 654 2424. Retail agents. ABTA 81433.

## WINTER SPORTS

**DEPART** any day, weekend skiing & tailor-made hols. 17 of the best resorts. Free brochure White Roc Ltd 0171 792 1188

## MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

**IMMACULATE** modern upright piano. 10 yrs old. Regularly serviced/tuned. Dble stool. £1,000. 01469 581143.

## ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES

**PRIVATE** Collection full & complete set pre-Raphaelite signatures, some letters & drawings & other artifacts. Stunning collection, prized to sell - needs cash offer to £50,000 secured. Call 01626 891800 or fax 01626 891888 for details.

## GIFTS

**A BIRTHDATE** Newspaper 1847-1997 in presentation folder videos avail. Tel/Fax 01934-412844 8pm 7 days.

**BIRTHDATE** NEWSPAPER free commemorative. Edition. Tel 01362 668207.

هكذا من الأصل



# OBITUARIES

## ERNEST GRINDLEY

**Ernest Grindley, survivor of the Battle of the Somme, died on January 8 aged 100. He was born on February 28, 1897.**

One of that dwindling band of survivors of the Somme who lived on into the final years of the 20th century, Ernest Grindley retained undimmed the memories of the carnage of 1916. As a signalman in the 19th Battalion the Manchester Regiment, he was one of the tens of thousands who clambered from their trenches, encumbered by 66lb of equipment (though even an army mule was expected to carry only a third of its body weight) and who walked in closely packed lines into the fire of the machineguns. Grindley was involved in the Somme battle from its first day, July 1, 1916.

At the beginning of 1915 Ernest Grundy (he changed his name to Grindley later, by deed poll) became one of the three million young men who, before conscription was introduced, answered Kitchener's call to the colours. To the end of his life he recalled how, in the jingoistic climate of those times, young "flappers" in the streets of Manchester waved white feathers in the faces of anyone whom they thought should have been at the front.

The press of volunteers was so great that it overwhelmed the military organisation; there were at first no uniforms for these new troops, let alone weapons. Likewise there were no barracks, and in those early days the men had to be sent home every night after the day's drilling, conducted with wooden staves. Kitchener's deep distrust of the Territorial Army had robbed him of the chance of forming fresh units on existing cadres. So the whole of Britain's New Army had to be improvised.

Grindley's battalion went to France in June 1916, a fortnight before the beginning of the Battle of the Somme. The march up the line to Bray, in Picardy, was grisly, the way littered with the decomposing corpses of draught animals and wagons wrecked by shellfire.

In the July infantry assaults on what was the most strongly defended position in Europe, the 19th Manchesters suffered grieviously. But, as Churchill later wrote of the Somme, "the British armies were so ardent, their leaders so confident, the need and appeals of our Allies so clamant, and decisive results seemingly so near, that no human power could have prevented the attempt".

On the first day of the attack, July 1, 1916, the Manchester Pals and the Liverpool Pals, advancing as part of the 30th Division, were among the very few units to achieve their objectives, breaking through the ranks of the 6th Bavarian Reserve Infantry Regiment and capturing the village of Montauban.



Grindley and a quarter of the signal section were held in reserve for that assault, but that evening he and the remainder of the signallers made their way under intense shellfire to the front line to take food to the forward troops. In addition to the standard kit of rifle, pack and mills grenades, he carried a two-gallon water bottle and a large bag of corned beef, a total approaching 90lb.

After the 60,000 casualties of the first day, the futile attacks went on without respite. On July 23, during the assault on Guillemont, Grindley's battalion, with few casualties, reached the German wire, only to find it intact despite the barrage. At point-blank range, the battalion was cut to pieces by shell, machinegun and rifle fire, and Guillemont remained in the hands of the enemy.

Grindley survived two months of these suicidal attacks, eventually running out of luck on the morning of September 3, 1916. During an attack on the village of Givenchy, his platoon came under fire in no man's land from enemy artillery using shrapnel. By this time, the British soldier had learnt to ignore the instructions of his officers to confront enemy fire at a slow walk, and members of his unit took refuge in a shellhole. But a burst close overhead killed all but two of the platoon, and wounded Grindley, a shell fragment tearing through his viscera and lodging splinters in his pelvis.

Drifting in and out of consciousness, he lay at the bottom of the shellhole from early morning until nightfall. Spotting a machinegunner between the opposing lines, he asked for help. With Grindley using his rifle as a stick, they managed to make it to a forward dressing station.

From the dressing station he was carried on a stretcher to the horse ambulance, the bearers dropping him and diving for cover every time a shell went over. Via a French hospital in Calais he was repatriated, finally partially recovering from his wounds after six months in hospital in Aberdeen. His hearing was severely impaired by the shell blast for the rest of his life.

No longer fit for active service, he now exchanged the rigours of the Western Front for a posting to a repair regiment as a quartermaster sergeant. He never forgot the words of the fully-fit QMS he relieved: "You've come to send me to my death."

After the war Grindley was awarded a partial disability pension but he returned to work for the railways, as a welfare officer. During the Second World War he had a commission as a captain in the Army legal branch, returning to the railways in 1948.

He retired in the 1950s and moved to Dartmouth, where he lived for many years and was treasurer of the Dartmouth Museum. He lived latterly in a Gloucestershire nursing home. Considering his injuries, Grindley remained in remarkable health, organising his own 100th birthday party at a local hotel. As recently as New Year's Day he had taken a family party, including his sister-in-law, nephews, nieces and a great niece, out to lunch.

His wife Dorothy, whom he married in 1924, died in 1985. They had no children.

## DENISE LEVERTOV

**Denise Levertov, poet and translator, died on December 20 aged 74. She was born on October 24, 1923.**



DENISE LEVERTOV'S reputation stands far higher in the cliquish world of poetry in North America than in her native Britain. Like the craft of free verse, of which she became a master, her life as an international figure required an inventiveness that defied traditional expectations.

She had no formal education, her parents preferring to tutor her at home on a small farm in Essex. Her only experience of the classroom was in ballet as a teenager, yet she was an avid reader and precocious enough by the age of 12 to be corresponding about issues of prosody with T. S. Eliot, in an exchange that the elder poet treated seriously.

Levertov enjoyed a rich intellectual home-life. Her father, Paul Philip Levertoff, a Russian Jew who converted to Christianity and became an Anglican priest, was a scholar whose dream of uniting the two religions led him to write a life of St Paul in Hebrew and to translate into English sections of the Jewish mystical work the *Zohar*. His conversations about Hadism, a mysticism that centres on everyday experience rather than sensational events, were to prove influential on his daughter's early work.

Levertov published her first poem in *Poetry Quarterly* in 1940, and her first book, *The Double Image*, appeared six years later to little notice. During the Second World War she volunteered as a nurse in London and met Mitchell Goodman, an American writer and GI; they married in 1947, and moved to France, living near a friend of Goodman's, the writer Robert Creeley. Through him Levertov was introduced to examples of "projective verse" and to the Black Mountain poets Robert Duncan and Charles Olson. Their emphasis on colloquial speech rather than formal metrics, and on the breath of speech as the proper measure for any poetic line, caused her to rethink her own ideas about how to compose poems. By the end of 1948 she and her husband had moved to America, where her new work began to attract attention.

In the style of William Carlos Williams, Levertov's poetry of the 1950s and early 1960s relies upon an immediacy of language for its emotional power.

*We are a meadow where the bees hum.*
*Mind and body are almost one*

*As the fire snaps in the stove*
*And our eyes close . . .*

*. . . Though the fall cold*
*Surrounds our warm bed, and though*
*By day we are singular and often lonely.*

She chose her words not for their ambiguity or suggestiveness, but for their clarity, and saw it as the poet's job to see the miraculous within the commonplace and routines of ordinary life. Poetry became nothing more or less than an intimate (albeit public) response to life. Her collection of essays *The Poet in the World* (1959) is unequivocal: "I do not believe that a violent imitation of the horrors of our times is the concern of poetry . . . I long for poems of an inner harmony in utter contrast to the chaos in which they exist. Insofar as poetry has a social function it is to awaken sleepers by other means than shock." Levertov's success was reflected in her appointment as poetry editor of the New York weekly *The Nation* in 1961.

Yet politics were soon to shadow her art and life. The Vietnam War made a profound impression on her. Both she and her husband spoke out against the US Administration and he was convicted, along with Dr Benjamin Spock, of encouraging resistance to the draft.

As the war dragged on and the death toll escalated, Levertov moved away from the subtle poetry of private awareness and developed a blunt political edge. This artistic choice, however unexpected and controversial, became a lifelong conviction. As early as 1965 she wrote: "The poem has a social effect of some kind whether or not the poet wills that it have."

Social issues — particularly imperialism, Third World poverty and the anti-nuclear movement — now became vital to her, and over the next three decades she found herself playing the roles of poet and political activist. This juggling act became a frequent metaphor — and a concern — in her lectures and interviews. She considered the tension between competing duties inevitable, and finally unresolvable for any artist of consequence. The poet must "juggle well and keep all the oranges dancing in the air at once". In her later work, by focusing upon the didactic orange, she tended to drop the poetic one.

Levertov and Goodman divorced in 1975, and she subsequently became more involved in American academic life, enjoying the time and the freedom it offered. From 1981 to 1994 she taught creative writing at Stanford University and published a collection of poems every few years. New Directions, her American publisher, has some 30 of her titles in print. Among her awards were the Robert Frost Medal, the Lenore Marshall Prize, the Shelley Memorial Award and the Lannan Prize.

Denise Levertov spent the last few years of her life in Seattle, Washington, near her son, who survives her.

## JOHN HINDE



The Beachcomber Bar at Butlin's, Skegness: colour as nature never intended

**John Hinde, photographer and circus promoter, died on December 26 aged 81. He was born on May 17, 1916.**

FROM the day in 1927 when he acquired a pinhole camera, encouraged by the local chemist, John Hinde spent virtually all of his spare time taking and developing pictures. His colour postcards, now period pieces, played a considerable role in the development of commercial colour photography. The images of rural Ireland and of Butlin's holiday camps — both shown as unbearably vivid — depict an unthreatening, uncomplicated and quite unrealistic world, with bright shirts and cardigans in foreground and endlessly blue skies behind.

John Wilfrid Hinde was born in Street, Somerset, and brought up in a close-knit Quaker community. A childhood accident left him crippled. After some time at the Bayard Press, he moved in 1941 to Adprint, a publisher's book producer, as head of the photographic department. Here he refined techniques for reproducing colour, using an elaborate process called "tricolour carbro", and was responsible for the colour plates in Collins's "Britain in Pictures" series.

Colour photography in the 1930s and 1940s was so complicated and time-devouring that Hinde was one of few pioneers to keep faith with it. Before the war he investigated processes in Germany, and lectured on the subject. True to his family's beliefs, Hinde was a conscientious objector in the Second World War but he worked as a photographer with the civil defence forces.

Perhaps surprisingly, in 1944 he suddenly moved for 12 years into an entirely different realm of popular art: the circus. Working on a book, he visited Reco's Circus in the North of England. A bohemian streak impelled him, and he became publicity manager for Reco, whose real name was Herbert Tucker. Like his future postcards, it was all about "clean fun" and "pleasant sentiments".

An Irish tour took the circus to Dublin, where Hinde organised a parade through the streets on a Saturday morning. After Reco walked a tightrope across the Liffey, he received and accepted a cash offer for the circus as a going concern — amply providing for his retirement.

Having proved his skill at filling an auditorium with 7,000 people twice a day, Hinde went to work for Bertram Mills and Chipperfields, where he met and married the double trapeze artist Antonia Falnoga. The couple then set up their own circus, "The John Hinde Show", but after logistical problems it soon folded.

In the meantime, Hinde had been taking photographs of Irish beauty spots, and in 1957 he established John Hinde Ltd, in Co Dublin, to produce a new kind of "view card". Originally using a modified office duplicating machine, he set out to appeal to a mass public, without any pretensions to art.

Rather than portray landscapes realistically, he presented them as they should be — and to him colour spelt happiness. After arranging the scenery as primly as possible, he tampered with the details, retouched any blemishes and intensified the colours of the negative separations to produce a simple, garish, popular heaven. By the time the Waterford Glass Group bought the company in 1972, 50 million cards had been sold worldwide.

Hinde and his wife retired to France, where he spent much of his time painting in oils. A retrospective of his work — coyly but inevitably called "Hindesight" — was held in Dublin in 1993. He is survived by his wife, and their three sons and two daughters.

## DOMINIQUE DE MENIL

**Dominique de Menil, arts patron and human rights advocate, died on December 31 aged 89. She was born on March 23, 1908.**

DOMINIQUE DE MENIL and her husband John created one of the largest and most diverse art collections in the world, much of which is now housed in Houston's Menil Collection museum, a masterpiece of modest elegance in a landscape of oil-boom excess.

Moving from France to America in the 1940s, the couple quietly but indelibly influenced conservative Houston society with their *avant garde* tastes, liberal politics and unpretentious style.

By the time of John de Menil's death in 1973, they had commissioned the Rothko Chapel, a place of pilgrimage for interfaith worship and contemplation outside Houston. Designed by the abstract expressionist painter Mark Rothko, it incorporates both his darkly meditative paintings and a sculpture, *Broken Obelisk*, by the minimalist Barnett Newman.

Since the mid-1970s, the chapel has been a meeting place for international scholars and a centre for colloquia on human rights issues. Since 1981 it has distributed generous awards to groups and individuals working for human rights around the world. In 1986, Dominique de Menil joined the former American President Jimmy Carter in forming the Carter-Menil Human Rights Foundation.

The following year, Dominique de Menil, whose fortune was estimated at $500 million, bestowed on the city of Houston a second architectural gift. She had asked the Italian architect Renzo Piano to design a museum that would "look small on the outside but be big on the inside". The result is the Menil Collection museum, an understated gem in a city known for ostentation and sprawl. It charges no admission or membership fees and has no museum shop.



"No boutiques and no blockbusters," Mrs de Menil insisted at its inception.

When it opened in 1987, word of the breadth and quality of the de Menils' collection soon spread beyond Texas. Beginning with a Cézanne watercolour purchased in New York in 1945, the couple had collected their way through art history, consolidating a treasury of primitive artefacts, Etruscan art and Byzantine bronzes, surrealist paintings and cubist works, pop art and minimalism — more than 10,000 astutely chosen pieces. As a *New York Times* critic concluded at the time of its opening, "The collection ranks among the greatest private assemblages in the United States."

But far from being detached aesthetes, the de Menils brought art to neglected neighbourhoods and used it to heighten social awareness in an insular city. One early project was to convert a decrepit movie theatre in a mostly black Houston neighbourhood into a gallery for work by black artists. Mrs de Menil curated the exhibitions herself, and through the Menil Foundation she financed a monumental scholarly work on images of blacks in Western art. The de Menil's home was an open house for guests of all races and nationalities long before multiculturalism was chic.

Dominique de Menil was born in Paris. Her father was the renowned oil technology pioneer Conrad Schlumberger. After studying physics and mathematics at the Sorbonne, she abandoned her Protestant faith — converting to Catholicism — to marry Jean de Menil in 1931 (her husband changed his Christian name to John after moving to the United States). Fleeing Nazi-occupied France, they travelled to America, where John de Menil represented the Schlumberger firm. They eventually settled in Houston and, flouting convention in a town of ornate mansions, hired the architect Philip Johnson to build them a stark, flat-roofed house, where they raised their five children.

In the years after her husband's death, Mrs de Menil carried on the work of their foundation: completion of catalogues of the work of Max Ernst and René Magritte, and, most recently, the installation of a series of 13th-century Byzantine frescoes, rescued from a church in Cyprus, in a Houston chapel designed by the de Menils' son François.

In 1986, Dominique de Menil, who became an American citizen in 1962, was awarded the United States Medal of Arts. Two years earlier, she was appointed to the Order of Arts and Letters of the French Government.

She is survived by three daughters and two sons.

# PERSONAL COLUMN

FLATSHARE

EARLSFIELD n/s prof for dbl room in 2 bed flt, close BL £400pcm exc bills. 0181 8710410

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NBI

YOUR WILL...

can help so many elderly people who have given so much

...and are now in need of help themselves - with nursing home fees or convalescence and in many other ways.

Please ask the NBI to show you how you can set up a legacy, a covenanted subscription, or please send a donation to:

The Secretary
The National Benevolent Institution
61 Bayswater Road
London W2 3PG
Tel: 0171-723 0021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN ON DIALYSIS

need our love and practical support, not just today but everyday.

Sadly, money cannot buy healthy kidneys but it can make life worth having.

Donations urgently needed by

The British Kidney Patient Association,

Bordon, Hants, GU35 9JZ.

Regd. Charity No. 270228

B.K.P.A.

COURT & SOCIAL

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES

Please send Court Page announcements by post/fax to:
Mrs J. Neenan, Court & Social Advertising, The Times, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9XS.
Tel: 0171 782 7347. Fax 0171 782 7725

Please include in all correspondence:
a signature of either one of the parties concerned or a parent,
a daytime and home telephone number and address.

Advertisements for the Court Page must be received two working days prior to publication and are accepted subject to confirmation.

Advertising Rate is £15.28 per line inc VAT.

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

FINCH, HERBERT GEORGE of 58 Hathaway Road, Bushey, Hertfordshire died on 10th October 1997. Particulars to Rayner de Wolfe Solicitors of 51 Southampton Row, London, WC1B 5HT before 18 March 1998.

MARTIN, TONY FREDERICK of 22 Bendon House, Hither Green Lane, London SE13 died on 27 September 1996 Particulars to HEPBURNS Solicitors of BLENHEIM HOUSE, BLENHEIM GROVE, PECKHAM, LONDON SE15 4QX (Ref: NJEO before 18 March 1998.

MARTIN, Margery Eileen Mary late of Woodway House, 11 Bigsby Road, Sileby, Leicestershire who died on 12th November 1997. Particulars to Philip J. Hammond & Sons, Solicitors of 47 Fosse Lane, Leicester LE1 5GX (Ref: 05 44 952) before 18th March 1998.

SCOTT COOPER, ERIC of 3 Longford Court, Tivoli Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2TE died on 17 August 1997 particulars to PAYNE HICKS BEACH Solicitors of 10 NEW SQUARE, LINCOLN'S INN, LONDON WC2A 3QG (Ref: NW 2SC052.1) before 18 March 1998.

STEVENS, JOSEPH WILLIAM LEONARD of 70 Forest Road, London E8 on 28 January 1997 particulars to DOWSE & CO Solicitors of 2292295 CAMDEN HIGH STREET, LONDON NW1 7BU before 18 March 1998.

STYLES, MRS GERTRUDE MARY of The Albert Clark Home, Albert Road, Caversham, Reading, died on 30th November 1997. Particulars to Sarjeant & Sheppard Solicitors of 150 Friar Street, Reading, RG1 1HE before 25rd March 1998.

SUMERLIN, CHARLES SIDNEY JAMES, Woodcote, Woodside, Aspley Guise, Milton Keynes, MK17 8EP, died 14th September 1997; particulars to Biddle Solicitors, 1 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BU before 31st March 1998.

WORCESTER, MICHAEL COPELAND, Thenardleid, Wargrave Road, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 2LX, recently of LaDauvron Cottage, Pleasants Hill, Shenbolden, Henley on Thames, Oxon RG9 6BD, died 12th November 1997; particulars to Biddle Solicitors, 1 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7BU before 31st March 1998.

## MILESTONES



**John Wells, writer, actor and director, died on January 11 aged 61. He was born on November 17, 1936.**

John Wells was a key member of the group of Sixties satirists who produced *Private Eye*, *That Was the Week That Was* and their many spin-offs. After Eastbourne College and National Service, he arrived in Oxford, where he threw himself into university magazines and theatre and met Richard Ingrams, Paul Foot and Willie Rushton. He was a beak at Eton while contributing to *Private Eye*, before joining the magazine's staff. Working in radio, theatre, television and journalism, Wells proved himself a jack-of-all-trades. He translated *Danton's Death* and *The Marriage of Figaro*, and wrote histories of the London Library and the House of Lords. But he may be best remembered for his affectionate caricature of Sir Denis Thatcher in *Anyone for Denis?* with himself in the lead.

*Obituary published on January 12.*



**Klaus Tennstedt, conductor, died on January 11 aged 71. He was born on June 6, 1926.**

Klaus Tennstedt studied the violin at the Leipzig Conservatoire and became leader of the Halle Orchestra in 1948, but a growth between two fingers forced him to abandon the instrument. Turning to the piano, he began to tread the traditional path of an aspirant conductor, playing for rehearsals, coaching singers and conducting occasional performances until he was appointed principal conductor of the opera at Karl-Marx-Stadt (Chemnitz) in 1954. Twenty years later, when he was nearly 50, he conducted Bruckner's Eighth in Boston, where the orchestra began applauding him in the rehearsal coffee-break and a newspaper headline "Once in a Lifetime" brought calls from all over America. Propelled into the top league, he became noted especially for his interpretations of Mahler, which he conducted with a violinist's love of the freely flowing lyrical line. In 1983 he became principal conductor of the London Philharmonic Orchestra, with which he formed a relationship of great mutual regard, but he was soon dogged by cancer. Knowing this, players and audiences reacted all the more strongly to his performances of the German epics.

*Obituary published on January 13.*

**Lady Taylor, former Assistant Director of Prisons, died on January 4 aged 83. She was born on September 16, 1914.**



Trained as a doctor, Dr Charity Taylor had a profound influence on the Women's Prison Service. She was first appointed to the Prison Service in 1942, as an assistant medical officer at Holloway Prison. Quickly promoted to medical officer, she was then appointed governor of the prison in 1945, the first woman to take charge of the largest English women's prison. Very unusually, she combined the responsibilities of running her prison with bringing up her family, and firmly believed this gave her more understanding of her charges. In 1959 she became head of the Women's Prison Service, but retired in 1966 to go with her husband, Lord Taylor, to a university in Newfoundland.

*Obituary published on January 14.*

# Blue chips lead the way higher

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 584 | 407½ | Allied Domecq | 547 | + 5 | 4.5 | 14.0 |
| 826 | 367½ | Bulmer (HP) | 372½ | | 5.0 | 11.5 |
| 75½ | 35½ | Burn Stewart | 35½ | | 12.0 | 12.4 |
| 639½ | 424 | Diageo | 565 | | 3.2 | 17.3 |
| 1040 | 840 | Glenmorangie 'A' | 850 | - 25 | 2.0 | 20.3 |
| 380 | 280 | Highland Dist | 286 | - | 3.9 | 13.2 |
| 336 | 157 | Matthew Clark | 166 | - 3½ | 15.1 | 5.4 |
| 109½ | 49½ | Marydan 'N' | 59½ | - 1 | 6.5 | |
| 2009½ | 1368½ | SA Breweries | 1371½ | | 2.7 | |

## BANKS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1521½ | 518½ | ABN-AMRO | 1,934½ | + 3½ | 2.6 | 17.3 |
| 1200 | 710 | Abbey Natl | 1157 | - 6 | 3.0 | 19.9 |
| 870 | 532½ | Alliance & Leic | 848 | - 17 | 2.4 | 19.9 |
| 628½ | 388½ | Allied Irish | 621 | - 6 | 2.9 | 18.3 |
| 516½ | 363½ | Am. Hen. Z | 385 | | 5.3 | .. |
| 4953½ | 2875 | Bank America | 4329½ | | | |
| 606 | 291½ | Bank Scotland | 565 | + 24 | 1.9 | 15.7 |
| 1800 | 978½ | Barclays | 1752 | + 45 | 2.4 | 16.7 |
| 981 | 517½ | BP of Ireland | 959½ | + 13 | 2.2 | 21.0 |
| 8359½ | 6006½ | Citicorp | 7234½ | | | |
| 1759½ | 1266½ | Commerzbk | 1631½ | | 2.8 | |
| 862½ | 230½ | Dai Ichi Kan 'I' | 368½ | + 68½ | 1.1 | 77.7 |
| 4595½ | 2709½ | Deutsche Bk | 3834½ | + 46½ | 1.6 | |
| 1300 | 759½ | Espirito Santo | 1190½ | - 6½ | 3.1 | |
| 947½ | 138 | Fuji Bank 'I' | 311½ | + 36 | 1.3 | 60.4 |
| 2169½ | 1272½ | HSBC | 1452 | - 42 | 4.0 | 11.6 |
| 2258½ | 1226 | HSBC HK | 1378 | - 48 | 4.2 | 11.2 |
| 876 | 507 | Halifax | 795 | + 16 | 2.3 | 26.8 |
| 665 | 483½ | Irish Perm | 665 | + 10 | 2.3 | 18.4 |
| 960½ | 424 | Lloyds TSB | 807½ | + 37½ | 2.2 | 29.5 |
| 1078 | 685½ | Nat Aust Bk | 863 | | 4.4 | |
| 1097 | 563½ | Nat West | 1070 | + 74 | 3.5 | 16.9 |
| 627½ | 443 | Northern Rock | 610 | + 11½ | 1.9 | 24.1 |
| 875 | 508 | Royal Bk Scot | 860 | + 40 | 3.1 | 16.9 |
| 1093½ | 528 | Standard Chart | 570 | + 11 | 3.4 | 9.9 |
| £164½ | £164½ | Wells Fargo | £164½ | | 1.9 | |
| 403½ | 315½ | Westpac | 394½ | | 3.8 | |
| 373½ | 267½ | Woolwich | 335 | - 1 | 2.9 | 19.8 |

## BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1000 | 635 | Bass | 912 | + 2 | 3.8 | 16.4 |
| 63½ | 43½ | Bn for the Bcrt | 54 | | 4.4 | 16.1 |
| 205 | 132½ | Benamond Brn | 146½ | | 6.1 | 12.7 |
| 155½ | 117 | City Centre Rest | 117½ | - 15½ | 2.7 | 18.3 |
| 81½ | 57½ | Compass Gp | 315½ | - 31½ | 1.5 | 28.1 |
| 305 | 250 | Eldridge P 'A' | 286½ | | 2.1 | 14.5 |
| 287½ | 221 | Enterprise Inns | 287½ | + 8 | 3.3 | 15.8 |
| 495 | 412 | Fuller Sm 'A' | 432½ | | 3.0 | 13.9 |
| 536 | 310 | Greenalls Grp | 417½ | | 5.1 | 10.2 |
| 779 | 610 | Greene King | 743½ | | 2.8 | 15.2 |
| 237½ | 152½ | Grosvenor Inns | 209½ | + 1 | 3.8 | 21.8 |
| 393½ | 218½ | Groupe Chez Ger | 278½ | | 1.4 | 22.5 |
| 298½ | 213½ | Hardy Hanson | 229½ | | 6.4 | |
| 2850 | 2053 | Hon J | 2112½ | | 3.6 | 11.8 |
| 78 | 56 | Inn Business | 63 | - ½ | 3.2 | 10.1 |
| 367 | 293 | Mansfield | 303 | | 3.0 | 12.5 |
| 315½ | 252 | Marston Thmp | 274½ | + ½ | 3.8 | 9.7 |
| 615 | 435 | Morland | 435 | - 2½ | 3.8 | 11.0 |
| 320½ | 210 | Old Eng Pub | 312½ | | 1.0 | 24.7 |
| 47½ | 18½ | Paramount | 28 | | | |
| 853 | 527½ | PizzaExpress | 739 | - 3 | 0.6 | 38.2 |
| 437½ | 302½ | Ramsdens (H) | 325 | - 2½ | 1.9 | 28.8 |
| 379½ | 262½ | Regent Inns | 319 | - ½ | 1.3 | 35.7 |
| 153½ | 102½ | SFI | 153½ | + 1½ | 0.6 | 32.7 |
| 785 | 566 | Scot & Newt | 738 | - 2 | 3.7 | 14.9 |
| 305 | 222½ | Vaux Group | 257 | - 2 | 5.4 | 10.9 |
| 339½ | 221 | Wetherspoon JD | 308½ | - 1½ | 0.8 | 35.7 |
| 971 | 620 | Whitbread | 930½ | + 27½ | 3.3 | 15.8 |
| 706½ | 430 | Wolverhmptn D | 486 | + 2 | 4.8 | 11.0 |
| 398½ | 279½ | Yates Bros | 389 | | 1.0 | 28.0 |
| 702½ | 615 | Young 'A' | 642½ | - 2½ | 3.0 | 26.6 |

## BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 32½ | 15½ | AAF Inds | 24 | + ½ | | |
| 265 | 170 | Abbey | 250 | | 3.4 | 18.6 |
| 369½ | 237½ | Alfent | 337½ | | 3.3 | 16.6 |
| 166½ | 90½ | Amec | 116½ | - ½ | 4.6 | |
| 512 | 347½ | Amey | 424 | + 11½ | 2.9 | 15.7 |
| 740 | 485 | Andrews Sykes | 727½ | | 2.0 | 17.9 |
| 194½ | 111½ | Ashtead | 193½ | | 1.2 | 26.7 |
| 43½ | 29½ | Avonside | 29½ | | 6.4 | 6.1 |
| 39½ | 24½ | Bandt | 32½ | | 4.6 | 15.5 |
| 64½ | 46½ | Barcom | 51½ | + 1 | 3.7 | 12.5 |
| 291½ | 221 | Barratt Devs | 230 | | 1.9 | 11.6 |
| 210 | 154½ | Beazer | 174½ | | 4.7 | 11.2 |
| 398½ | 299½ | Bellway | 328 | | 3.5 | 10.9 |
| 22½ | 16½ | Belhaven | 19 | | | 8.4 |
| 52½ | 33 | Ben Bailey | 47½ | | 4.2 | 6.7 |
| 737½ | 580½ | Berkeley Grp | 612½ | - 2½ | 2.0 | 10.8 |
| 173 | 125 | Bett Bros | 159 | | 5.3 | 4.8 |
| 285 | 230 | Bovis (Henry) | 286 | | 3.6 | 11.2 |
| 204½ | 184½ | Bovis Homes | 200½ | | 5.9 | 8.9 |
| 129½ | 86 | Brandon Hire | 111½ | + 1 | 3.3 | 14.9 |
| 37½ | 27½ | Britannia Grp | 30½ | | 3.7 | 9.8 |
| 153 | 106 | Bryant | 115½ | - 1 | 5.5 | 12.4 |
| 125 | 99½ | C-&-A | 109½ | | 4.3 | 8.8 |
| 6½ | 2½ | Campbell & Arm | 4 | | | |
| 104½ | 53½ | Clarke T | 83½ | | 7.9 | 9.8 |
| 42 | 20 | Costain | 27 | | | |
| 105 | 71 | Countryside | 101 | | 3.8 | 9.4 |
| 111 | 80½ | Crest Nicholson | 97 | | 4.1 | 11.9 |
| 102½ | 67½ | Cussins | 86½ | | 6.1 | 8.6 |
| 177½ | 147½ | Eve Group | 164 | | 4.1 | 12.0 |
| 24 | 15½ | Galliford | 21½ | | 6.1 | 14.0 |
| 1076 | 657½ | Gleeson (MJ) | 1020 | | 2.2 | 16.8 |
| 320 | 126½ | Havelock Euro | 144 | - 2½ | 4.0 | 9.3 |
| 184½ | 123 | Hewden-Stuart | 164 | | 2.6 | 22.0 |
| 22 | 16 | Howard Hldgs | 20½ | | 6.2 | 20.2 |
| 403½ | 130½ | Jarvis | 382 | + 3 | 2.1 | 19.6 |
| 237½ | 182½ | Keller | 185½ | - 1 | 3.2 | 13.2 |
| 250½ | 185½ | Kier | 207½ | | 2.8 | 11.1 |
| 380½ | 279 | Laing (J) | 325 | + ½ | 3.8 | 27.5 |
| 130½ | 110½ | Laing 6.4% Cv Pf | 119 | + ½ | 6.7 | |
| 12½ | 8½ | Lovell (YJ) | 10 | | | |
| 210½ | 155½ | Maunders (J) | 157½ | + 1 | 5.0 | 9.6 |
| 167½ | 112½ | McAlpine (A) | 142½ | + 2½ | 6.1 | 30.3 |
| 136½ | 95½ | McCarthy & St | 115½ | + ½ | 3.2 | 10.7 |
| 89 | 53½ | Mckenny | 77 | | | |
| 235½ | 157½ | Morgan Sindall | 173½ | + 1 | 3.3 | 11.8 |
| 337½ | 234½ | Morrison Cons | 314½ | - 2 | 2.1 | 17.6 |
| 144 | 85 | Mowlem (J) | 87 | - ½ | 5.0 | 8.5 |
| 266 | 185 | Persimmon | 198½ | | 6.1 | 10.1 |
| 102½ | 48 | Peterhouse | 88½ | | 5.5 | 20.0 |
| 120 | 100 | Pochins | 112 | - 3 | 2.8 | 13.0 |
| 144½ | 97½ | Prowting | 117 | | 4.5 | 10.8 |
| 179½ | 137 | Redrow | 144½ | | 3.1 | 12.7 |
| 352½ | 215½ | Spandex | 225 | | 1.8 | 12.6 |
| 103 | 76 | Swan Hill | 79½ | | 4.1 | |
| 156½ | 115 | Try Homes | 136½ | | 6.9 | 12.0 |
| 215 | 153 | Taylor Woodrw | 175½ | - 3 | 2.7 | 13.5 |
| 307 | 193 | Tilbury Dougls | 199 | | 5.9 | 12.4 |
| 27½ | 13½ | Try Group | 22 | + ½ | | 10.5 |
| 86 | 58½ | Vibroplant | 63½ | | 8.0 | |
| 152½ | 109½ | Wardhomes | 112½ | + 1½ | 5.3 | 11.6 |
| 74½ | 36½ | Ward Hldgs | 46½ | | | |
| 275½ | 224½ | Westbury | 232½ | | 3.7 | 11.5 |
| 14 | 7½ | Wiggins | 12½ | | | 18.1 |
| 191 | 147½ | Wilson (C) | 150½ | - ½ | 4.1 | 15.3 |
| 563½ | 471½ | Wilson Bowdn | 512½ | | 2.8 | 13.5 |
| 155 | 95½ | Wimpey G | 102½ | | 6.7 | 10.9 |

## BUILDING MATERIALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 58½ | 33 | Aggregate Inds | 52½ | - ½ | 4.7 | 23.6 |
| 388 | 256½ | BPB | 313 | - 7 | 3.9 | 14.3 |
| 110½ | 88½ | Baggeridge Brk | 104½ | + 1 | 4.2 | |
| 64½ | 27½ | Blockleys | 45½ | | 0.4 | |
| 452 | 273 | Blue Circle | 326½ | - 1½ | 4.9 | 13.7 |
| 107½ | 78½ | Breedon PLC | 100 | | 6.5 | 13.7 |
| 152½ | 119 | Br Dredging | 129 | | 6.0 | 9.8 |
| 256½ | 562½ | CRH | 742½ | + 6½ | 1.3 | 18.4 |
| 59½ | 42½ | Caradon Rty | 50½ | - 4 | 7.7 | 5.0 |
| 192½ | 156½ | Cape | 118½ | | 6.3 | 9.3 |
| 273 | 167½ | Caradon | 178½ | - ½ | 6.7 | 8.8 |
| 132½ | 98½ | Caradon pf | 105 | + ½ | 8.6 | |
| 107½ | 51 | Chelsea Gp | 103½ | | 4.1 | 10.2 |
| 272½ | 201½ | Dyson (J&J) | 218 | | 3.3 | 13.0 |
| 145 | 105 | Dyson 'A' | 120 | | 6.0 | 7.2 |
| 120 | 46½ | Ennstone | 37 | | | |
| 290 | 167½ | Epwin | 167½ | - 7½ | 6.9 | 10.2 |
| 107½ | 82½ | Gibbs & Dandy | 102½ | | 4.7 | 10.9 |
| 177½ | 119 | Graham Grp | 172½ | + ½ | 4.2 | 24.8 |
| 355½ | 187½ | Halstead (J) | 283½ | | 4.3 | 19.9 |
| 334½ | 247 | Hanson | 250 | - 4 | 6.0 | 10.2 |
| 247½ | 198½ | Hepworth | 132½ | - 11½ | 7.8 | 13.6 |
| 145 | [illegible] | Howard [illegible] | 134½ | | 5.9 | 9.9 |
| 268 | [illegible] | Heward Arm | 212 | - ½ | 6.1 | 8.8 |
| 72½ | 49 | [illegible] | 51 | - ½ | 4.9 | 19.2 |
| 530 | 275 | [illegible] | 347½ | | 4.3 | 12.7 |
| 93½ | 62½ | [illegible] | 62½ | | 6.9 | 11.4 |
| 52½ | [illegible] | Marley | 33 | | 6.4 | 8.7 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Marshalls | [illegible] | - 7 | 5.1 | 16.0 |
| 457½ | [illegible] | Meyer Intl | 364 | - ½ | 4.2 | 13.6 |
| 95½ | 63 | Novera | 67½ | | 3.5 | 14.8 |
| 165 | 110 | Pilkington | 115 | - 2 | 5.1 | 14.7 |
| 264½ | 162½ | [illegible] | 173½ | | 2.3 | 13.5 |
| 23 | 17½ | [illegible] | 22 | + ½ | | 19.6 |
| 314½ | 202 | RMC | 205 | - 11 | 3.9 | 11.4 |
| 1... | [illegible] | Redland | 342½ | - ½ | 6.1 | 18.0 |
| 114½ | 76½ | Ruberoid | 78½ | | 7.9 | 14.6 |
| 112 | 91 | Rugby Group | 132 | | 3.6 | 25.9 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Rugby [illegible] | 93½ | - 1 | 4.2 | 12.7 |
| 348½ | [illegible] | SIG | 250½ | - 20 | 4.5 | 10.5 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | | | | 15.0 |
| 237 | 211 | Sharpe & Fisher | 225 | | 3.3 | 14.7 |
| [illegible] | 5½ | Spring Ram | 17½ | | | |
| 137½ | 146½ | Steetley Hldgs | 149½ | - 1 | 7.4 | 9.2 |
| 42 | 32½ | Tarmac | 33 | - ½ | 6.9 | 12.5 |
| 38 | 22½ | Tilbury | 25 | | 7.3 | |
| 532 | 425 | Travis Perkins | 486½ | - 1 | 2.6 | 17.4 |
| 50½ | 35½ | Tyzack | 51½ | - 2 | 5.4 | 12.2 |
| 5½ | 4½ | Wainhomes | 5 | | 2.3 | 30.1 |
| 549 | 422½ | Wolseley | 471½ | - 1½ | 3.0 | 15.2 |

## CHEMICALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | 152 | Allied Colloids (Au) | 146½ | - 2 | 5.6 | 15.2 |
| [illegible] | 99 | Allied Colloids | 103½ | - 1½ | 5.3 | 22.3 |
| 125 | 100 | Amber Ind | 110 | - 2½ | 6.5 | 9.7 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Anglesey | 55 | - 1 | 2.1 | 16.6 |
| 3 | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | | | |
| 2221½ | 1585 | BASF DM | 2071½ | | 2.8 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | BOC | 898 | - 5 | 3.9 | 15.1 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | BTP | 344 | + 3 | 4.3 | 16.5 |
| 2523½ | 1534½ | Bayer DM | 2146½ | + 16½ | 2.1 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Br Vita | 193 | | 4.1 | 10.7 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 224 | - ½ | 4.7 | 12.0 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 144 | - ½ | 2.5 | 7.9 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Camnas [illegible] | 265 | | 4.1 | 12.8 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Cray Technology | 238½ | - 2 | 2.9 | 21.4 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Croda | 351½ | - 9 | 6.5 | 10.8 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 381½ | - 13 | 3.1 | 10.0 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 210½ | | 4.7 | 9.0 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 132½ | - 1 | 8.4 | 14.5 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Ellis & Everard | 305 | - 3 | 4.2 | 12.9 |
| [illegible] | 49½ | Euro Colour | 57½ | + ½ | 5.3 | 10.2 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 145 | | 6.2 | 9.5 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 767½ | | | 14.6 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 1062½ | - 27 | 2.2 | |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Holliday Chem | 227½ | - 7½ | 3.1 | 16.4 |
| 1110 | 581½ | ICI | 920 | - 25 | 4.0 | 32.0 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 208 | - 6½ | 3.5 | 10.3 |
| 180½ | 170 | [illegible] | 152½ | | 4.4 | 23.3 |
| [illegible] | [illegible] | Laporte | 538½ | - 9½ | 4.5 | 10.5 |
| 230 | 115 | Macfarlen | 245 | | 5.9 | 30.6 |
| 91 | 33 | [illegible] | 56 | - 4 | 4.9 | 7.4 |
| 32 | 22 | [illegible] | 33 | | 3.3 | 8.5 |
| 345 | 240 | Porvair | 323 | | 2.2 | 27.4 |
| 252 | 174½ | Scapa | 216 | - 4 | 3.4 | 11.7 |
| 29 | 17 | [illegible] | 29½ | - 2 | 7.1 | 8.8 |
| 1999½ | 1136½ | [illegible] Chem | 1752½ | + 82½ | 0.4 | 32.9 |
| 369½ | 147½ | [illegible] | 236½ | + 4 | 2.6 | 20.5 |
| 955 | 596 | Wardame A | 680 | - 2½ | 4.8 | 12.7 |
| 243 | 158 | Yorks Grp | 214 | + 1½ | 5.4 | |
| 381½ | 264½ | Yule Catto | 283½ | | 4.1 | 12.0 |

## DISTRIBUTORS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 212½ | 143½ | Acton Gp Sciet | 139½ | - 2 | 1.5 | 19.2 |
| 418 | 275 | Adam & Harvey | 342½ | | 8.2 | 5.2 |
| 27½ | 6½ | Alexander | 9½ | | 1.3 | |
| 90 | 51½ | Appleyard | 57½ | | 5.7 | |
| 3½ | 1½ | Ass Br Eng | 1½ | | | 68.6 |
| 530 | 425 | BSS Group | 427½ | | 6.1 | 12.8 |
| 16½ | 12½ | Braithwaite Power | 13½ | | | |
| 37½ | 34½ | Brigard | 34½ | | 3.3 | 5.5 |

## (Column 2)

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 680 | 530 | Bunzl | 583 | .. | 3.5 | 14.1 |
| 27 | 10½ | Bridgend Gp | 11½ | | 2.2 | 52.5 |
| 119½ | 92½ | Brit Fittings | 92½ | | 6.1 | 7.4 |
| 365 | 300 | Caffyns | 360 | .. | 4.5 | 8.3 |
| 225 | 162½ | Cal Group | 178½ | | 3.3 | 16.9 |
| 172½ | 117½ | Cawdale | 149½ | | 3.2 | 8.7 |
| 100 | 61½ | Charles Sidney | 87½ | .. | 4.5 | 12.5 |
| 59½ | 39½ | Cook (DC) | 39½ | | 7.7 | 5.7 |
| 131 | 60½ | Dag Motor | 100 | | 10.0 | 6.5 |
| 134½ | 102½ | Denmans El | 120 | | 3.2 | 9.2 |
| 400 | 215 | Diploma | 227½ | | 8.0 | 9.2 |
| 502½ | 387½ | Electrocomponts | 495 | + 4 | 2.0 | 28.6 |
| 78½ | 25½ | Eurocopy | 26½ | - ½ | 12.3 | |
| 226½ | 117½ | Eurodis Elec | 157½ | + 1 | 4.0 | 30.8 |
| 105 | 76½ | European Mtr | 90 | | 8.2 | 7.0 |
| 300 | 213 | Evans Halshaw | 290 | | 7.1 | |
| 55½ | 39½ | File Indrus | 42½ | .. | 10.0 | 6.9 |
| 397½ | 275 | Firstlat Grp | 382½ | + 1½ | 2.5 | 17.0 |
| 34½ | 19½ | Gardiner | 24½ | | 4.9 | 9.0 |
| 79½ | 57½ | Glencherton | 66½ | .. | 3.0 | 10.6 |
| 110 | 82½ | Gowrings | 102½ | | 3.8 | 17.0 |
| 15½ | 11 | HR Owen | 13½ | | 6.9 | 8.9 |
| 103 | 20½ | Hamlet# | 22½ | | | 2.1 |
| 374 | 284½ | Headlam | 355 | | 2.1 | 21.5 |
| 172 | 145 | Holders Tech | 150 | | 5.4 | 12.2 |
| 240½ | 66½ | ISA Intl | 116½ | | 3.2 | 9.1 |
| 308½ | 137½ | Inchcape | 148½ | - 7 | 8.3 | 9.8 |
| 72 | 49½ | Jacks (Wm) | 57½ | | 5.4 | 7.4 |
| 373½ | 214½ | Kwik-Fit | 370½ | - 1 | 2.0 | 20.3 |
| 474½ | 316½ | Lex Service | 450½ | - ½ | 4.6 | 13.6 |
| 122 | 97 | Lookers | 106 | | 9.4 | 7.6 |
| 57½ | 38½ | ML Hdgs | 53½ | | 4.0 | 13.5 |
| 545 | 369 | Menzies (John) | 389 | - 1 | 4.7 | 11.0 |
| 9 | 4½ | Middleton | 4½ | | 2.6 | 11.6 |
| 41½ | 10½ | Midstates | 18 | | 3.3 | |
| 472 | 180 | Norbain | 283½ | | 3.9 | 11.5 |
| 243½ | 114½ | Northamber | 238½ | + ½ | 1.4 | 18.5 |
| 357½ | 285½ | Parco | 324 | + 4½ | 3.1 | 17.2 |
| 394½ | 254½ | Pendragon | 261 | - ½ | 4.9 | 11.5 |
| 223½ | 172½ | Perry Gp | 178½ | | 6.4 | 7.9 |
| 751 | 389 | Premier Farnell | 389 | - 11 | 4.0 | 14.4 |
| 144½ | 116 | Quicks Group | 119½ | | 7.8 | 7.9 |
| 357 | 265 | REA | 275 | | 1.8 | 60.8 |
| 2½ | 1½ | Reece | 1½ | | | 58.5 |
| 140½ | 33 | Ring | 33½ | | 8.2 | 8.4 |
| 28 | 9½ | Ronson | 11 | | | |
| 5½ | 1½ | Ross Gp | 4½ | | | |
| 109½ | 78½ | Ryland | 99½ | | 5.1 | 9.4 |
| 38 | 24 | SEP Ind | 28½ | + ½ | 5.7 | |
| 52½ | 24 | Saltire | 25½ | | 5.9 | |
| 415½ | 168 | Time Products | 171 | | 9.1 | 7.0 |
| 347 | 155½ | Trust Motor Grp | 166½ | | 8.4 | 7.3 |
| 430 | 228 | UMECO | 430 | + 15 | 1.7 | 23.0 |
| 94½ | 59 | Unsed Osess Gp | 92½ | | 0.5 | 20.6 |
| 352½ | 237½ | Vardy (Reg) | 251½ | | 3.9 | 11.7 |
| 685 | 498½ | WF Elect | 669 | + 6 | 2.8 | 22.9 |
| 41 | 25½ | Whitehurst | 38½ | + ½ | 2.8 | 10.4 |
| 172½ | 111½ | Wyko | 146½ | | 2.6 | 16.3 |
| 159½ | 119½ | Young (H) | 137½ | + 1 | 4.2 | 9.8 |

## DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 492½ | 315 | Antofagasta | 317½ | | 2.1 | 16.3 |
| 328 | 232 | Ascot Hldgs | 242½ | - 1½ | 2.7 | 10.6 |
| 917 | 509 | Broken Hill | 546½ | | 3.7 | 15.0 |
| 624 | 462 | BAT | 581 | + 3 | 5.6 | 14.4 |
| 60½ | 38½ | Brierley Inv | 39 | | 11.9 | 6.5 |
| 266 | 175½ | Cookson | 179 | - 6½ | 5.6 | 11.2 |
| 240½ | 197½ | Cosalt | 235 | | 6.0 | 9.3 |
| 415 | 255½ | DCC | 411½ | + 1½ | 2.4 | 15.3 |
| 375 | 243½ | Galliford | 357 | + 4 | 6.7 | 11.1 |
| 667½ | 288 | Hutch Whamp | 334½ | + 23½ | 3.5 | 20.1 |
| 438½ | 361 | Imperial Tob | 423 | + 5 | 8.3 | 10.4 |
| 522½ | 231½ | Jardine Math | 252 | + 20½ | 6.1 | 9.7 |
| 158½ | 78½ | Lonrho | 82½ | + 3 | 7.2 | 8.6 |
| 175½ | 141½ | McLeod Russell | 165½ | | 5.3 | 12.0 |
| 623½ | 388½ | Powell Duffryn | 486½ | - 21 | 6.4 | 12.7 |
| 197½ | 141½ | Staveley | 145 | | 7.8 | 19.0 |
| 604½ | 259 | Swire Pacific | 287½ | - 1½ | 4.9 | |
| 397½ | 271 | TT Group | 271 | - 3½ | 3.7 | 11.1 |
| 361 | 252½ | Tomkins | 322 | + 5 | 3.8 | 13.5 |
| 210 | 165 | Undare | 207½ | | 7.8 | |
| 498 | 350 | Wardle Storeys | 427½ | | 6.0 | 13.1 |
| 387½ | 285½ | Wassall | 322½ | - 2 | 2.7 | 14.4 |
| 166½ | 122½ | Whitecroft | 133½ | | 4.4 | 21.6 |

## ELECTRICITY

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 460 | 184½ | Br Energy | 454 | + 22 | 3.9 | 44.7 |
| 690 | 463½ | Energy Group | 686 | + 2 | 3.8 | 14.7 |
| 336 | 192 | National Grid | 290 | + 15 | 5.0 | 13.5 |
| 689½ | 427 | National Power | 660 | + 8 | 5.3 | 9.0 |
| 562½ | 352½ | Nthn Ireland | 562 | + 5½ | 4.8 | 39.8 |
| 861 | 569½ | PowerGen | 850 | + 28 | 3.9 | 12.9 |
| 562 | 319½ | Hydro-Elect | 561½ | + 1 | 4.1 | 12.7 |
| 575 | 331½ | Scottish Power | 528 | + 5 | 4.5 | 13.1 |
| 550 | 373½ | Southern Elec | 540 | + 13 | 5.2 | 14.2 |

## ELECTRONIC & ELECT

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 493½ | 312½ | Acal | 313½ | . | 4.0 | 10.2 |
| 240½ | 130 | Acorn | 130 | | | |
| 765 | 365 | Admiral | 765 | + 16 | 0.4 | 57.6 |
| 78 | 22 | Amstrad | 31 | + ½ | 2.0 | 14.6 |
| 48½ | 29½ | Arlen | 32 | - 1 | 4.7 | 8.4 |
| 164½ | 103½ | Actac | 111 | | 2.1 | 13.0 |
| 77½ | 45½ | Adam | 53½ | + 1 | | |
| 293½ | 139½ | BICC | 144 | - 13½ | 10.9 | 13.3 |
| 173 | 41½ | Beales Hunter | 51½ | | 26.0 | 3.6 |
| 382½ | 205 | Bick | 310 | | 5.8 | 10.2 |
| 457½ | 292½ | Bowthorpe | 376½ | | 3.4 | 15.1 |
| 15½ | 8 | Bulgin A | 14½ | + ½ | 6.5 | 17.6 |
| 159 | 127½ | CML Micro | 152½ | | 5.0 | 18.2 |
| 39½ | 22½ | Chanel Hldgs | 26½ | | 7.8 | 8.3 |
| 43½ | 27½ | Chloride | 39½ | | 2.2 | 9.6 |
| 84½ | 54 | Clayhithe | 67½ | | 6.6 | 7.5 |
| 930 | 537½ | Cnlchley | 737½ | | 2.2 | 19.8 |
| 383½ | 241½ | Delta | 241½ | - 2 | 7.8 | 8.9 |
| 408 | 255 | Domino | 401½ | | 3.5 | 17.6 |
| 95½ | 62½ | Dowding Mills | 75½ | | 5.3 | 12.8 |
| 306 | 230 | Druck | 287½ | + 2½ | 0.8 | 31.0 |
| 5525 | 3316 | Electrolux 'B' | 4153½ | - 12½ | 2.3 | 21.7 |
| 37½ | 19½ | Emess | 30½ | | 2.4 | 13.9 |
| 3050 | 1771½ | Ericsson 'B' | 2318½ | + 6½ | 0.8 | |
| 541 | 305 | Eurotherm | 387 | + ½ | 3.2 | 17.0 |
| 675 | 482 | Farey Group | 489 | - 4½ | 2.2 | 14.8 |
| 495 | 291½ | Filtronic Com | 431 | | 0.4 | 66.4 |
| 32 | 10 | Forward Tech | 14½ | + ½ | 2.2 | .. |
| 420 | 327½ | GEC | 380 | - 11 | 4.4 | 17.4 |
| 148½ | 30½ | Ind Control | 45½ | - 1 | 5.5 | 7.5 |
| 26 | 12 | Intelek | 18 | | 6.9 | |
| 115 | 83½ | Kode | 85½ | | 3.7 | 7.2 |
| 73 | 37½ | LPA Indt | 68½ | - 3 | 4.1 | |
| 338 | 188 | Manwtter-Sw | 305 | | 2.7 | 15.2 |
| 30½ | 11 | Microvitec | 15½ | | 6.9 | |
| 425 | 315 | Millel | 425 | | | |
| 242 | 93 | Network Techn | 124½ | - ½ | 1.3 | 14.5 |
| 458 | 280 | Oxford Inst | 293½ | | 3.3 | 10.2 |
| 237½ | 36½ | Pace Micro | 38½ | - 1½ | 6.5 | |
| 99 | 29½ | Pesk | 79½ | | 4.2 | 24.9 |
| 5496½ | 2328½ | Philips Lmp nv | 3518½ | + 12½ | 1.4 | |
| 225 | 142½ | Plasmec | 225 | | 3.6 | 13.4 |
| 79½ | 33½ | Psion | 47½ | | 2.6 | |
| 318½ | 209½ | Pressac | 302½ | + 3½ | 1.8 | 22.2 |
| 48 | 29½ | Prestwick | 35½ | | 3.5 | 10.8 |
| 512½ | 276 | Psion | 452½ | | 0.6 | 37.4 |
| 315 | 201 | Racal Elect | 247 | | 3.0 | 46.5 |
| 135½ | 89½ | Radamec | 90 | | 4.3 | 13.8 |
| 380 | 258 | Renishaw | 357½ | | 3.0 | 22.0 |
| 3 | 1½ | Rodime | 1½ | | | |
| 221½ | 149½ | Rotork | 206 | + ½ | 4.1 | 12.8 |
| 234½ | 165½ | SDX Bus Sys | 230½ | + ½ | 1.3 | |
| 411½ | 287 | Servomex | 391 | | 3.7 | 16.2 |
| 83½ | 39½ | Silverminea | 43 | + 1½ | 4.1 | 11.8 |
| 7000 | 3671½ | TDK | 4550 | + 231½ | 0.5 | |
| 108 | 55½ | TGI | 63½ | | 7.0 | 6.6 |
| 125½ | 91 | TLG | 101½ | | 5.0 | 12.0 |
| 34½ | 7 | Tadpole Tech | 9½ | - ½ | | |
| 82½ | 47½ | Telemetrix | 49 | | 3.7 | 21.2 |
| 307½ | 175 | Telspec | 259 | | | |
| 177½ | 125½ | Thorpe FW | 150½ | | 3.7 | 9.3 |
| 177½ | 27½ | Total Systems | 75 | + 3½ | 2.3 | 16.2 |
| 287 | 70 | Tunstall | 106 | + 2 | 6.3 | |
| 75½ | 26½ | Verity | 68½ | | 0.2 | |
| 196½ | 77½ | Vero | 90 | | 8.1 | 7.1 |
| 87½ | 32½ | Vigles Technology | 32 | - ½ | | |
| 562½ | 400 | Volex | 493 | | 5.4 | 13.5 |

## ENGINEERING

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 592½ | 270 | AIM | 276 | - 3½ | 4.1 | 9.0 |
| 52 | 19½ | ASW | 36½ | | | |
| 378 | 229 | Alumasc | 242½ | - 5 | 4.4 | 9.6 |
| 166½ | 191 | Alvis | 190 | - 2 | 2.9 | 19.1 |
| 202½ | 139½ | Ash & Lacy | 165 | | 5.6 | 8.0 |
| 107½ | 95½ | Avonline Metal | 97½ | | 7.1 | 5.4 |
| 450 | 314 | BBA | 354½ | - 13 | 2.4 | 17.8 |
| 283 | 150 | BTR | 160 | - 5½ | 6.3 | 5.6 |
| 125 | 79½ | BWI | 84 | | 6.0 | 9.2 |
| 102 | 54½ | Babcock | 69 | - 2 | 2.3 | |
| 14½ | 6½ | Bailey (CH) | 7 | | 4.5 | |
| 132½ | 76 | Baynes (Charles) | 91 | - ½ | 4.1 | 10.6 |
| 75½ | 23½ | Beaufort | 24½ | | 4.1 | 11.4 |
| 63½ | 27½ | Benson Group | 30½ | - ½ | 6.1 | 39.9 |
| 202 | 124 | Beresford | 186 | | 3.8 | 10.7 |
| 88 | 61 | Bersid Cr Un Ln | 86½ | | 5.8 | |
| 996½ | 617½ | Bodycote | 941 | - 16½ | 1.1 | 27.8 |
| 43½ | 37½ | Booth Inds | 39½ | + ½ | | |
| 28½ | 19 | Brasway | 23½ | | 5.7 | 9.9 |
| 135½ | 99½ | Bridport-Gudry | 137½ | - 3 | 4.5 | 16.6 |
| 1850 | 1189½ | Br Aerospace | 1605 | - 11 | 1.3 | 19.7 |
| 193½ | 121½ | Br Steel | 129 | - 5 | 9.7 | 11.8 |
| 141½ | 101½ | Brooke Tool | 137½ | | 4.7 | |
| 22½ | 11½ | Brunel | 15½ | | 4.0 | 8.7 |
| 122½ | 72½ | Bullough | 102 | + ½ | 6.9 | 17.3 |
| 36 | 22 | Carbo | 30½ | | 2.3 | |
| 232½ | 174½ | Cardo Eng | 213 | | 6.4 | 12.5 |
| 297½ | 206 | Castings | 213½ | | 3.3 | 12.3 |
| 195 | 130 | Chamberlin Hill | 190 | | 5.3 | 8.6 |
| 865 | 662½ | Charter | 652½ | - 24½ | 5.4 | 9.6 |
| 286 | 76½ | Chemring | 143½ | - 1 | 2.6 | |
| 380 | 270 | Clyde Blowers | 272½ | | 3.2 | 59.0 |
| 890 | 561½ | Cobham | 784½ | - 4½ | 1.9 | 22.0 |
| 485 | 295 | Cohen (A) | 420 | | | |
| 185 | 100½ | Concentric | 116½ | - 3 | 7.8 | 24.1 |
| 225½ | 189 | Dand Brown | 217½ | | 6.0 | 12.9 |
| 336 | 227 | EG | 324 | | 5.2 | 11.1 |
| 24½ | 8½ | Eleco | 20 | | | |
| 100 | 57½ | Elliott (B) | 99½ | + ½ | 4.0 | 13.2 |
| 131 | 96½ | Expamet | 131 | + 3½ | 3.4 | 14.9 |
| 213½ | 140 | FKI | 162½ | - 4½ | 4.1 | 14.8 |
| 207½ | 145½ | Fenner | 195½ | | 3.7 | 15.5 |
| 7 | 4½ | Ferrum | 5 | | | |
| 62½ | 29 | Firth Hldgs | 31½ | - ½ | 1.9 | 23.5 |
| 142 | 86 | Firth Rixson | 129½ | - ½ | 2.5 | 16.5 |
| 150½ | 44½ | Flare | 45 | | 2.8 | 40 |
| 129½ | 30 | GEI Intl | 103 | - ½ | 5.5 | 10.5 |
| 181½ | 136½ | Galton Eng | 156½ | - 2½ | 6.5 | 5.6 |
| 265½ | 193½ | Glynwed | 240 | - 13½ | 6.6 | 10.1 |
| 134½ | 97½ | Haden MacLn | 102½ | | 5.5 | 11.8 |
| 345 | 165 | Hadleigh | 225 | | 3.9 | 10.7 |
| 301 | 165 | Hall Eng | 191 | - 1½ | 5.2 | 8.1 |
| 149½ | 39 | Halmai | 119 | + ½ | 2.6 | 15.1 |
| 87 | 54½ | Hampson Ind | 76 | - ½ | 4.5 | 14.7 |
| 45½ | 24½ | Hay (Norman) | 35½ | | | 15.1 |
| 55 | 29½ | Headway | 42½ | | 3.7 | 5.9 |
| 83½ | 52½ | Hill & Smith | 52½ | | 10.4 | |
| 73½ | 31½ | Hoey Gp | 66 | - 2 | 3.0 | 11.0 |
| 229½ | 159½ | Hunting | 227½ | | 3.0 | 15.7 |
| 452½ | 279 | IMI | 395 | - 15½ | 3.9 | 14.2 |
| 694 | 460 | Johnson Matthy | 501½ | - 22 | 3.2 | 12.2 |
| 43½ | 26½ | Jones Stroud | 27½ | | 6.8 | 11.3 |
| 475 | 285 | Kalon indt | 415 | | 8.4 | |
| 337½ | 202½ | Linsal | 310½ | | 4.1 | 11.5 |
| 46 | 31½ | Locker (T) | 43½ | | 4.0 | 11.5 |
| 24½ | 16½ | MG Intl | 20½ | | 3.7 | |
| 593½ | 417½ | Mang Bronze | 445 | | 2.7 | 12.2 |
| 604 | 361½ | Meckechin | 395½ | - 43½ | 5.3 | 10.6 |
| 174½ | 101½ | Meggitt | 173 | - 1 | 3.1 | 22.1 |
| 105 | 80½ | Metalrax | 97½ | | 5.0 | 14.2 |
| 13½ | 10½ | MetalTech | 11½ | - ½ | | |
| 160 | 119½ | Metser | 143½ | - 1 | 3.7 | 8.4 |
| 970 | 297½ | Molins | 798 | | 9.2 | 12.2 |
| 538½ | 404½ | Morgan Crble | 416 | - 11½ | 4.5 | 13.8 |
| 400½ | 232½ | Morris Ashby | 301½ | | 3.1 | 13.1 |
| 54 | 28 | Neepsend | 53½ | | 4.7 | 11.5 |
| 74½ | 47½ | Polypipe | 63½ | | 8.8 | 8.0 |
| 763½ | 547½ | Powerscreen | 575½ | - 11 | 2.2 | 14.9 |
| 265½ | 154 | Quadramatic | 139½ | - 1 | 6.3 | 10.3 |
| 226½ | 45 | Quadrant Grp | 45 | | | |
| 80 | 50 | Radiant Metal | 53 | | | |
| 57½ | 27½ | Ransomes | 51½ | | 1.2 | 21.5 |
| 275½ | 225½ | Renold | 260 | | 3.2 | 10.5 |
| 90½ | 62½ | Richardson Wes | 82½ | - 1 | 6.5 | 7.6 |
| 371½ | 190 | Rolls-Royce | 206 | - 7½ | 3.3 | 14.2 |
| 317½ | 227½ | Fotork | 203½ | - 7 | 3.6 | 20.8 |
| 130 | 90 | Rubicon | 155 | | 5.1 | 12.7 |
| 1946½ | 1178½ | SKF 'B' | 1181½ | - 3½ | 3.4 | |
| 169½ | 107½ | Senior Eng | 141½ | - 4 | 3.2 | 17.2 |
| 518½ | 313½ | Smith & Ryr | 467½ | - 1 | 1.9 | 21.6 |

## ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1333½ | 687 | Globe | 1047 | - 47 | 1.5 | 18.6 |
| 227½ | 105½ | Sk Hundred | 125½ | - 1 | 5.0 | 8.9 |
| 983½ | 708½ | Smiths Ind | 763 | - 13 | 2.9 | 17.9 |
| 28½ | 13 | Solveray | 16 | | 1.9 | |
| 767 | 543 | Spirax-Sarco | 655 | - 20 | 3.2 | 14.4 |
| 303½ | 236½ | Sterling Indt | 273½ | | 4.7 | 10.0 |
| 698½ | 430 | TI | 464 | - 16 | 3.7 | 14.8 |
| 120½ | 88½ | Tiexley (E) | 102½ | | 7.6 | 9.5 |
| 120½ | 67½ | Transtec | 67½ | - 7 | 4.5 | 9.2 |
| 273½ | 144½ | Tepler Lloyd | 272½ | | 3.3 | 18.4 |
| 417 | 251½ | Ultra Elect | 359 | - 6 | 2.3 | 20.9 |
| 77½ | 48½ | Utd Inds | 60 | .. | 5.2 | 15.4 |
| 273½ | 169½ | Vickers | 214½ | - 16½ | 4.2 | 13.4 |
| 10½ | 6½ | Villers Grp | 7½ | | | |
| 712½ | 505 | Vitec | 647 | + ½ | 2.4 | 12.3 |
| 952 | 742 | Vosper Thorny | 805 | - 1 | 4.2 | 12.4 |
| 350 | 213½ | Wagon Ind | 288½ | | 5.3 | 12.5 |
| 304½ | 203½ | Weir | 252½ | - 10 | 4.1 | 12.3 |
| 259½ | 154½ | Wellington Hdg | 156 | + ½ | 6.5 | 9.1 |
| 49 | 23 | Wolman | 48½ | | 3.6 | 13.6 |
| 71½ | 45½ | Wescol | 65½ | | 2.3 | 16.8 |
| 825 | 525 | Whatman | 760 | + 3 | 2.3 | 22.2 |
| 65½ | 30½ | Widney | 50 | + 1 | 9.2 | 14.9 |
| 154 | 97 | Adwest | 144½ | | 5.8 | 11.7 |
| 197 | 155 | Airflow Stream | 157 | | 6.4 | 11.3 |
| 757 | 565 | Avon Rubber | 630 | + 4 | 3.6 | 14.1 |
| 344 | 227½ | Bostrom | 338½ | + 6 | 2.6 | 16.9 |
| 140 | 96 | Britax | 129½ | - 4 | 3.3 | 16.9 |
| 339½ | 203½ | Dennis | 305 | - 2 | 3.8 | 14.1 |
| 345½ | 219½ | First Tech | 345 | + ½ | 1.5 | 24.1 |
| 1480 | 907 | GKN | 1218 | - 40 | 2.6 | |
| 4390½ | 3237½ | General Mtr | 3590½ | | 3.4 | |
| 583½ | 357 | Hardys | 409 | | 4.1 | 11.2 |
| 2326½ | 1540½ | Honda Motor | 2328½ | + 121½ | 0.4 | |
| 502 | 312½ | Laird | 402½ | - 12½ | 3.6 | |
| 245 | 180 | LucasVarity | 211 | - 5 | 2.3 | 13.4 |
| 206 | 131 | Mayflower | 169 | - 4½ | 1.8 | 24.0 |
| 172½ | 107½ | Syltone | 117½ | | 6.9 | 9.7 |
| 257½ | 123 | T & N | 254½ | | 4.5 | |
| 85½ | 18 | Toad | 34½ | | | |

## FOOD MANUFACTURERS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 615 | 418 | AB Food | 600 | + 17 | 2.1 | 19.0 |
| 311½ | 250 | Acatos & Hutch | 261 | | 5.2 | 26.8 |
| 48½ | 33½ | Albert Fisher | 33½ | - 1½ | 12.5 | 8.8 |
| 320 | 256 | Banks (S C) | 257½ | - 10 | 5.7 | 9.2 |
| 483 | 322 | Barr (AG) | 487½ | + 1 | 2.9 | |
| 43 | 30 | Barsons Crsp | 34½ | | 4.1 | 8.6 |
| 402 | 244 | Booker | 254½ | - 3 | 11.8 | |
| 615 | 415 | Brake Bros | 614 | + 1½ | 2.1 | 21.0 |
| 220 | 83 | CPL Aromas | 97 | | 6.2 | 27.9 |
| 706½ | 464 | Cadbury-Schw | 700 | + 1 | 2.9 | 18.9 |
| 335 | 245 | Carrs Milling | 245 | | 5.9 | 8.4 |
| 81½ | 57½ | Cavaghan | 72½ | | 6.4 | 13.4 |
| 267½ | 203½ | Cranswick | 242½ | | 5.4 | 11.6 |
| 281½ | 195½ | Dairy Crest Group | 281 | + 2½ | 4.5 | 11.9 |
| 363½ | 217½ | Dalgety | 277 | + ½ | 6.0 | |
| 52½ | 30½ | Daniels SW | 45½ | + ½ | 0.8 | 28.4 |
| 408½ | 263½ | Devro | 398½ | - 1 | 2.8 | 17.9 |
| 130½ | 79½ | Finlay (James) | 101½ | | 4.4 | 18.6 |
| 415 | 250 | Geest | 411 | | 2.6 | 19.2 |
| 26 | 9 | Global | 9½ | | 8.8 | 6.0 |
| 380 | 270 | Greencore | 310 | | 3.8 | |
| 185 | 99½ | Hazlewood Fdst | 185 | + 4 | 4.8 | 13.3 |
| 200½ | 144 | Hillsdown | 145½ | - 3 | 8.6 | 9.1 |
| 77½ | 35½ | JLI Group | 62½ | | 9.9 | 13.0 |
| 420 | 345 | Linton Park | 405 | | 4.9 | 8.7 |
| 142 | 93 | Matthews (B) | 93 | - 1 | 5.6 | 8.9 |
| 235½ | 177½ | Nichols (V) | 212½ | | 4.3 | 11.9 |
| 279½ | 186½ | Nthn Foods | 265 | | 4.6 | 15.2 |
| 22½ | 13 | Nthmbrn Fn | 17½ | - ½ | 1.4 | 9.0 |
| 104½ | 77½ | Paramount Foods | 93 | | 6.9 | 10.6 |
| 105 | 47½ | Pascoe's | 58 | | | 81.3 |
| 110½ | 68½ | Perkins Food | 109½ | | 4.8 | 11.8 |
| 122½ | 47½ | Plant & Gen | 77 | | 2.6 | |
| 167½ | 72½ | Sentry Farm | 82½ | - 1 | 7.7 | 7.6 |
| 44½ | 25½ | Sims Food | 33½ | + 1 | | 3.6 |
| 532½ | 398½ | Tate & Lyle | 525 | - 3 | 3.5 | 14.2 |
| 191½ | 112½ | Treatt | 141 | + 1 | 5.5 | 39.8 |
| 619½ | 414 | Unigate | 618½ | + 8½ | 4.2 | 14.9 |
| 531 | 337½ | Unilever | 493 | + 8 | 2.1 | 22.7 |
| 3818½ | 2487½ | Unilever (NV) | 3584½ | | 1.6 | 16.8 |
| 253½ | 187 | Utd Biscuits | 236 | + 1 | 5.3 | 18.3 |
| 47½ | 29½ | WT Foods | 47 | | 4.0 | 18.0 |
| 15½ | 8 | Yorkshire Food# | 8½ | | | |

## HEALTHCARE

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 381½ | 243½ | Alnce UniChem | 381 | + 6 | 3.0 | 29.3 |
| 148 | 116½ | Assoc Nursg | 136 | | 3.5 | 21.4 |
| 770 | 472½ | Bespak | 767½ | + 2½ | 2.1 | 21.8 |
| 1432½ | 425 | Biocompatbs Intl | 475 | | | |
| 169½ | 95½ | Care First | 168½ | | 3.0 | |
| 147½ | 96 | Care Uk | 147½ | + 1 | 1.1 | 17.1 |
| 114½ | 63½ | Celsis | 86 | | | |
| 415 | 355½ | Community H | 392½ | | 3.7 | 15.5 |
| 31 | 24½ | CrestaCare | 26½ | | 4.5 | 12.8 |
| 28½ | 4½ | Enviromed | 8½ | | | |
| 167½ | 106½ | Ferraris Group | 124 | | 3.2 | 11.6 |
| 215 | 129 | Huntgh Tec | 145 | | 2.8 | 18.3 |
| 390 | 81½ | Innovative Tech | 113½ | | .. | |
| 86 | 60 | Intercare Gp | 68½ | | 6.6 | 10.8 |
| 497 | 330 | Isolon | 495 | | 1.6 | 19.4 |
| 182 | 143 | Lon Intl | 155½ | + 1½ | 2.3 | 20.8 |
| 197½ | 122½ | Nestor Hlth | 197½ | | 2.3 | 25.9 |
| 2502½ | 1100 | Nycomed Amsh | 2215 | - 30 | 0.9 | 49.8 |
| 30 | 3 | Premier Health# | 3½ | | | |
| 319½ | 234½ | Scholl | 261½ | | 3.8 | 16.4 |
| 522½ | 382½ | Seton Health | 501½ | - 1 | 2.3 | 19.6 |
| 919 | 123 | Skeld Diag | 692½ | + 5 | | |
| 197½ | 150 | Smith & Neph | 175 | | 4.0 | 16.7 |
| 3½ | 2 | Taranis | 2½ | + ½ | 4.1 | 17.2 |
| 378½ | 226½ | West Hithcare | 377 | + ½ | 2.2 | 22.2 |

## HOUSEHOLD GOODS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 282½ | 150½ | Airsprung | 151½ | | 5.3 | 9.7 |
| 250 | 170 | Alba | 184 | | 4.2 | 10.4 |
| 32½ | 16½ | Armour | 17 | | 5.5 | 41.7 |
| 182½ | 102½ | BLP Group | 158½ | | 4.7 | 5.9 |
| 76½ | 41½ | Bilston Batsea | 51½ | | 3.6 | 26.7 |
| 120½ | 57½ | Black Arrow | 115½ | | 4.7 | 9.5 |
| 395½ | 324½ | Black (Peter) | 392½ | | 2.0 | 19.9 |
| 204½ | 160½ | Carnwell Pier Sp | 163½ | | 2.3 | 13.8 |
| 42½ | 19½ | Creighton | 31 | | | |
| 17 | 5½ | Dailyway | 8 | | 11.2 | |
| 296½ | 142 | Denby Group | 151½ | - 1 | 3.8 | 11.2 |
| 145½ | 109½ | Eclipse Blinds | 111½ | | 3.6 | 10.9 |
| 46 | 26 | Elbel | 40 | | 3.8 | 7.5 |
| 430 | 140 | Gasket | 412½ | + 11½ | 1.7 | 14.0 |
| 320 | 250 | IMP Intl | 280 | + 12½ | 2.2 | 12.5 |
| 71½ | 27½ | Jourdan (T) | 49½ | | 3.8 | |
| 193½ | 97 | Kenwood App | 134 | + 7½ | | |
| 17 | 7½ | Lionheart | 13 | | 10 | 26.7 |
| 194½ | 114½ | McBride | 180½ | + 2 | 4.8 | 14.5 |
| 262½ | 85½ | Mayborn | 105 | | 9.6 | 5.6 |
| 975 | 545 | Osborne & Little | 557½ | | 4.7 | 11.1 |
| 523 | 433½ | Paterson Zch | 436½ | + 1½ | 4.9 | 10.2 |
| 470 | 370 | Paterson Zch 'A' | 381 | + 2 | 5.6 | 8.9 |
| 268 | 192 | Pifco | 192 | - 3 | 3.9 | 10.6 |
| 266 | 192 | Pifco 'A' Vtg | 192 | - 3 | 3.9 | 10.6 |
| 1147 | 696 | Reckitt Colm | 910½ | - 14½ | 2.9 | 16.5 |
| 468½ | 338½ | Relyon | 431½ | | 3.3 | 16.8 |
| 297½ | 209½ | Royal Doulton | 308½ | | 5.8 | 11.9 |
| 372½ | 365 | Silentnight | 282½ | | 4.6 | 12.3 |
| 23½ | 12½ | Stoddard | 16½ | - ½ | 5.8 | 35.6 |
| 330 | 249½ | Stoves | 251½ | | 2.9 | 18.1 |
| 273½ | 196½ | Swallowfield | 233½ | + 1 | 4.1 | 12.5 |
| 219 | 152 | Tomkinsons | 157½ | | 9.1 | 8.5 |
| 102 | 70 | Victoria | 77 | | 4.1 | 12.2 |
| 72 | 40 | Walker Greenbk | 47½ | | 9.7 | 9.9 |
| 90 | 67½ | Wiliord Walged | 90 | + 5½ | 1.8 | 24.5 |
| 235 | 195 | Wood (Arthur) | 185 | | 4.5 | 13.3 |

## INSURANCE

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3437½ | 2246½ | Am Gen | 3321½ | | 2.6 | |
| 127 | 86 | Angerstein | 120 | + ½ | 10.8 | 9.5 |
| 89½ | 57 | Bradstock | 82 | - 1 | 12.2 | |
| 1135 | 719 | Britannic | 1129½ | + 3½ | 3.7 | 16.0 |
| 132 | 112 | CLM Insce | 130 | | 10.5 | 10.2 |
| 267½ | 190½ | Charles Taylor | 267½ | | 2.0 | |
| 912 | 623½ | Coml Union | 894 | + 21 | 4.0 | 13.7 |
| 237½ | 138 | Cox Insce | 283½ | + ½ | 1.3 | 21.0 |
| 505 | 378 | Dom & Gen | 500 | | 2.3 | 19.8 |
| 311½ | 211 | FBD IE | 308½ | + 1½ | 3.0 | 11.0 |
| 152½ | 119½ | Fiosbury Under | 152 | | 9.4 | 12.2 |
| 1195 | 729 | Gen Accident | 1156 | + 6 | 3.8 | 13.4 |
| 377½ | 257 | GRE | 364½ | + 5½ | 3.4 | 5.1 |
| 458½ | 271½ | Hiberman IE | 456 | - 2½ | 2.5 | 13.4 |
| 206 | 115 | Hiscox | 204 | | 1.9 | 34.7 |
| 146½ | 111 | Hiscox Select | 145½ | | 2.4 | 13.4 |
| 1260 | 593½ | Independent | 1260 | + 27½ | 1.4 | 13.4 |
| 373½ | 267 | Irish Life | 373½ | + 1 | 3.7 | 12.1 |
| 296 | 150½ | Jardine Lyd Th | 186½ | + 1 | 7.2 | 15.5 |
| 113 | 98 | Kiln Capital | 110 | | 3.2 | 37.1 |
| 120½ | 100½ | Lambert Fent | 111½ | + 1 | 3.4 | 7.9 |
| 599 | 363 | Legal & Gen | 599 | + 20 | 2.4 | 15.5 |
| 1978½ | 1285½ | Liberty Life | 1481½ | - 16½ | 2.7 | |
| 150 | 123½ | Limit | 150 | + 3 | 5.2 | 9.1 |
| 535½ | 397 | Londn & Man | 533½ | + 2½ | 4.9 | 14.8 |
| 4906½ | 3068½ | Marsh McLn | 4400 | | 2.8 | |
| 125 | 95 | Matheson | 109½ | - ½ | 13.4 | 7.7 |
| 111 | 82½ | New London Cap | 84½ | | 9.0 | 12.3 |
| 430 | 300 | Norwich Union | 415 | + 10 | 3.2 | 21.6 |
| 112½ | 68½ | Ockham | 110½ | | 5.1 | |
| 134½ | 76½ | Orion | 82½ | | 8.7 | 48.8 |
| 135 | 93 | Primrum Trust | 121 | | 4.1 | 28.3 |
| 829 | 483 | Prudential | 790 | + 32 | 2.6 | 18.4 |
| 20 | 15½ | PWS | 19½ | | 4.9 | |
| 676 | 425½ | Royal & Sun Al | 655 | + 20 | 3.7 | 22.5 |
| 187½ | 35½ | St James Place | 179 | + 1½ | 1.0 | 26.8 |
| 171 | 114½ | Sedgwick | 142½ | + 2½ | 5.2 | 11.7 |
| 33½ | 21½ | Steel Burrill | 28 | | 6.7 | |
| 520 | 260½ | Sun Life & P | 515 | + 16 | 2.6 | 35.5 |
| 126 | 103 | Syndicate Cap | 116½ | + ½ | 9.7 | 11.4 |
| 551 | 423 | Utd Assurance | 537 | - ½ | 4.6 | 19.0 |
| 159 | 106½ | Wellington | 158 | + 2 | 3.6 | 10.8 |
| 164½ | 115½ | Willis Corroon | 136 | - ½ | 6.1 | 11.5 |
| 23 | 9½ | Windsor | 14½ | | 5.4 | |

## INVESTMENT TRUSTS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 540 | 400 | 3i | 539 | - 19 | 2.2 | 31.4 |
| 233½ | 84 | Aberdn New Dawn | 108 | + 4 | 1.9 | 42.8 |
| 253 | 206½ | Abrrforth Sml | 216½ | | 4.2 | |
| 152 | 107 | Aberforth Sm Wts | 119½ | + ½ | | |
| 88½ | 51½ | Abtrust Emerg | 58½ | + ½ | 0.9 | |
| 102 | 66½ | Abtrust High Inc | 100½ | + 2½ | 8.3 | 15.0 |
| 2634 | 2112½ | Alliance | 2560 | - 17½ | 2.8 | 42.8 |
| 613½ | 471½ | Anglo & O'seas | 601½ | - 4½ | 2.0 | 62.7 |
| 98½ | 64½ | Asia Opps | 69 | + ½ | 0.5 | |
| 99 | 51½ | Baillie Gifford SR | 59 | + 3½ | | |
| 265½ | 205 | Bankers | 246½ | + 2½ | 2.7 | |
| 125 | 68 | Barng Em Eu | 88 | - ½ | | |
| 497½ | 380 | Barng Tribne | 484½ | | 2.1 | 54.0 |
| 122½ | 98½ | Br Assets | 119½ | - ½ | 5.1 | 35.3 |
| 120½ | 99½ | Br Empire Sec | 108 | - ½ | 1.2 | 58.5 |
| 90½ | 54½ | Brazilian | 55½ | | | |
| 363 | 282 | Brunner | 315½ | | 2.5 | 46.2 |
| 126 | 103 | BZW Conv# | 110 | | 8.5 | |
| 100½ | 77½ | Camgemi Dem | 80 | | | |
| 800 | 569½ | Cardover | 800 | + 5 | 2.4 | 45.3 |
| 79 | 54½ | Central Euro Gwth | 60½ | + ½ | | |
| 177 | 152 | City Merch HY | 175½ | + 1 | 7.5 | 15.7 |
| 244½ | 179½ | City Of Lon | 240 | + 2½ | 3.4 | 32.9 |
| 268½ | 209½ | Conti Asset | 238 | + 1 | 1.6 | |
| 79½ | 67 | Danae Inv Inc | 77½ | - 2 | 13.3 | 9.9 |
| 566 | 390 | Derby Cap | 537½ | | | |
| 177½ | 127½ | Derby Inc | 133½ | | | 6.8 |
| 184 | 142½ | Dunedin Inc G | 179½ | + 2 | 4.0 | 27.9 |
| 377½ | 315½ | Dunedin Smlr | 337½ | + ½ | 3.7 | 28.8 |
| 202½ | 151 | Dunedin Wrdwd | 178½ | + 1 | 1.4 | 70.8 |
| 392½ | 265½ | EBC | 283 | - 1 | 0.2 | |
| 94 | 43 | Edin Dragon | 51½ | + 1 | | |
| 34 | 24 | Edinburgh Inca | 25½ | + ½ | | |
| 434½ | 343½ | Edinburgh IT | 436 | + 3½ | 3.2 | 33.9 |
| 134 | 79½ | Edin Japan | 95½ | + 3½ | | |
| 462 | 312 | Edin US Tk | 446 | + 7½ | 1.0 | 78.3 |

## (Investment Trusts, continued)

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 536 | 430½ | Electra Inv | 531½ | + 1 | 2.3 | .. |
| 167½ | 143 | Eng & Scot | 157½ | - 1½ | 2.4 | 41.0 |
| 34½ | 15½ | Enf Cap | 27 | | | |
| 422 | 307½ | European Asst | 377½ | - 1½ | 1.3 | |
| 113½ | 47½ | Fidity Asian Val | 50½ | + 2 | | |
| 283½ | 218½ | Fidity Euro Val | 283 | + 2 | 0.2 | |
| 50 | 24 | Fidity Jap Val | 27½ | + 1 | | |
| 142 | 119½ | Fidity Spec Val | 142 | - 1½ | 1.2 | 70.5 |
| 332½ | 206½ | Finsbury 'A' | 224½ | | 2.2 | 61.2 |
| 197½ | 146½ | Finsbury Gwth | 175 | + ½ | 2.6 | 49.1 |
| 214 | 130 | Fine Art Chinc | 130 | - 2½ | 1.9 | 66.3 |
| 31½ | 3 | Fine Art Wts | 3 | | | |
| 574½ | 375½ | Fleming Amer | 538 | - 4½ | 0.7 | |
| 82½ | 44½ | Fleming Asian | 51½ + | 3 | | |
| 19½ | 6½ | Fleming Asian Wts | 8½ + | ½ | | |
| 106½ | 44½ | Fleming Chinese | 48 | + ½ | | |
| 40 | 13½ | Fleming Ch Wts | 18½ + | ½ | | |
| 412½ | 280½ | Fleming Claws | 412½ + | 1½ | 2.0 | 53.9 |
| 507½ | 381 | Fleming Cont | 483½ + | ½ | 1.0 | |
| 158 | 100½ | Fleming Em Mkt | 106½ + | 1½ | 0.5 | |
| 286½ | 227½ | Fleming Enlp | 276 | - ½ | 2.4 | 41.1 |
| 437 | 371½ | Fleming Fledg | 375½ + | ½ | 0.3 | |
| 321½ | 210 | Flem Gtd Gth Ord | 319½ + | 1 | 1.1 | |
| 160½ | 140½ | Flem Gtd Gth Pf | 158 | | 10.5 | |
| 108 | 78 | Fleming Inc Cap | 107½ | | 6.6 | 20.4 |
| 110½ | 103 | Fleming Ing Inc | 110 | | 10.8 | 11.4 |
| 271½ | 117 | Fleming Ing Cap | 271 | + 6 | | |
| 63 | 39 | Fleming Indian | 41 | + ½ | | |
| 22 | 5 | Fleming In Wts | 8½ | | | |
| 214½ | 128½ | Fleming Japan | 151½ + | 11½ | | |
| 407½ | 335½ | Fleming Mercj | 378 | - 2 | 3.0 | 34.4 |
| 114½ | 70½ | Fleming Nat Res | 71½ | | 0.9 | |
| 409 | 321½ | Fleming Oseas | 364 | + 2 | 1.6 | 79.5 |
| 160½ | 137½ | Fleming Smllr Co | 151 | | 3.7 | 43.9 |
| 185½ | 147½ | Foreign & Col | 172½ + | ½ | 1.7 | 58.3 |
| 106½ | 90½ | F&C Eng Fund | 101½ + | ½ | 4.4 | 28.2 |
| 121 | 85 | F&C Emg Mkts | 95½ + | ½ | | |
| 222½ | 123 | F&C Enterprise | 222½ + | 2½ | 1.3 | 74.5 |
| 384½ | 285½ | F&C Eurotst | 367 | + ½ | 0.4 | |
| 168 | 133½ | F&C German | 153 | | 0.5 | |
| 176 | 99½ | F&C Pacific | 113½ + | 5½ | 2.0 | 54.1 |
| 149½ | 131½ | F&C PEP | 145 | | 3.9 | |
| 185½ | 166½ | F&C Smllerl | 177½ + | ½ | 1.9 | 51.9 |
| 185 | 122½ | F&C US Smlr | 154 | + 2 | | |
| 62½ | 52 | Framlin Inct | 61½ | | 10.4 | 11.7 |
| 125 | 80½ | Framlin Cap | 135 | + 3½ | | |
| 149 | 40½ | Frand Dust Cp | 142 | + 3½ | | |
| 42 | 11 | Fulcrum Cap | 42 | + 1 | | |
| 29 | 16½ | Fulcrum Inc | 18½ + | ½ | 59.4 | 2.1 |
| 189½ | 175½ | Fulcrum Zero | 189½ | | | |
| 283 | 245½ | Gartmore Brit | 283 | + 2½ | 4.0 | |
| 264½ | 190½ | Gartmore Eurot | 251½ | | 0.7 | |
| 119½ | 77½ | Gartmore Shrd | 119½ + | 2½ | 10.4 | 12.3 |
| 371½ | 292 | G'more Smlr Cos | 358½ + | 1 | 2.1 | 53.1 |
| 57 | 35½ | Geared Inc Ord | 57 | + ½ | 10.7 | 7.3 |
| 57 | 17½ | Geared Inc Inc | 56 | - ½ | 10.9 | 7.2 |
| 266½ | 59½ | Gov Asn Sm Cos | 79½ | - 1 | 0.8 | |
| 118½ | 70½ | Gov Emg Mkts | 78½ + | 1½ | 0.6 | |
| 230 | 151½ | Govett Am Smlr | 158½ + | 4½ | | |
| 86½ | 71½ | Govett High Inct | 86 | + 1 | 8.1 | 14.8 |
| 189 | 80½ | Govett Oriental | 93 | - 3½ | 0.9 | |
| 391 | 333½ | Govett Strategic | 385 | + 1½ | 2.5 | 36.4 |
| 24½ | 9 | Gresham House | 24½ | | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| 130½ | 106½ | GT Inc Growm | 121 | + ½ | 3.3 | 41.5 |
| 231½ | 145½ | GT Japan | 168 | + 12 | 0.6 | |
| 128½ | 92½ | Gwth Fl Ex Inc | 128½ + | 1½ | 8.0 | |
| 66 | 44½ | Henderson Am Co | 64½ + | ½ | | |
| 120 | 100½ | Henderson Am Int | 119½ | | 8.1 | 15.7 |
| 33½ | 16 | Henderson Am Wt | 32½ + | ½ | | |
| 303½ | 243 | Hend Ele. Scot | 282 | - ½ | 1.7 | 66.6 |
| 182½ | 101½ | Hend Far East | 110½ + | 3½ | 7.7 | 15.8 |
| 501½ | 445 | Hend Gmlnr | 456 | | 2.0 | 65.0 |
| 157½ | 117½ | Hend High Inct | 157½ + | ½ | 5.2 | 24.3 |
| 74½ | 30½ | Hend Jap Smlr | 33½ + | 1½ | | |
| 244½ | 214½ | Hend Smlr | 223½ + | 1 | 2.2 | 53.8 |
| 528 | 457 | Hend Stratgt | 507½ + | 2 | 0.1 | |
| 124 | 51 | Hend TR Pac | 56 | + 2½ | 0.6 | 62.5 |
| 113 | 81½ | Hend Tech | 93½ + | 1 | | |
| 151½ | 120½ | Herald | 138 | + ½ | 0.7 | |
| 109½ | 85 | High Income Tt | 109 | + 1 | 7.8 | 13.7 |
| 153½ | 132½ | H Govett Smlr | 143½ | | 3.6 | 50.9 |
| 170½ | 139½ | I&S UK Smlr | 144 | + 1 | 2.5 | 57.6 |
| 190 | 146½ | Inv Cap | 183½ + | 1 | 3.9 | 27.7 |
| 140 | 83½ | Inf Biotech | 88 | - 1 | | |
| 66 | 10½ | Inf Biotec Wts | 17 | - 1½ | | |
| 99 | 66 | Inf Biotec C | 77 | | | |
| 112 | 38 | INVESCO Asa | 42½ + | 1½ | 1.9 | 52.2 |
| 84 | 48½ | INVESCO Eluet | 77½ + | ½ | 13.5 | 9.1 |
| 198½ | 165 | INVESCO Eng Inl | 181 | | 0.9 | 75.4 |
| 80½ | 23½ | INVESCO Jap Dis | 29 | + 1½ | | |
| 90½ | 25 | INVESCO Korea | 38 | - ½ | | |
| 47 | 25 | INVESCO Tokyo | 28½ + | 1½ | | |
| 165½ | 83½ | JF Fledg Jap | 96½ + | ½ | | |
| 140 | 82½ | J Fry Euro U | 139 | + 1½ | 4.9 | 30.3 |
| 75½ | 42 | J Fry UUW | 75½ + | 3½ | 9.0 | 17.4 |
| 85½ | 68½ | J Fry Utd Inct | 85½ + | ½ | 7.7 | |
| 128 | 92½ | Jupiter Ex Inc | 128 | + 1 | 7.7 | 16.2 |
| 25 | 3½ | Jupiter Ex IncW | 25 | + ½ | | |
| 96 | 76½ | Jupiter Grd Cap | 96 | + 2 | 10.5 | 11.8 |
| 45½ | 31 | Jupiter Grd Pld | 45½ + | | | |
| 139½ | 120½ | Jupiter Intl Gth | 137 | + 1 | 3.6 | |
| 389½ | 293 | Klowt Cht | 365½ + | ½ | 2.0 | 54.5 |
| 118½ | 73½ | Klowt & Mkt | 84½ + | 3 | | |
| 174 | 153½ | Klowt End | 171 | | | |
| 121 | 74 | Klowt H Inc | 120 | | 11.2 | 12.2 |
| 368½ | 261 | Klowt O'seast | 349 | + 3½ | 1.5 | 67.6 |
| 188½ | 161½ | Klmrt Smlr | 171 | | 2.6 | 45.7 |
| 387 | 99 | Korea-Euro | 90 | - ½ | 1.4 | 40.8 |
| 173½ | 98½ | Latin American | 115½ + | ½ | | |
| 1138 | 902½ | Law Debenture | 1107½ | | 2.1 | 33.6 |
| 122 | 103½ | Lde Ott Dsp | 118 | + ½ | | |
| 133 | 109½ | Lloyds Sm Cap | 124½ | | | |
| 25½ | 16½ | Lloyds Sm Dw | 18½ + | ½ | 29.5 | 4.5 |
| 158½ | 128 | Lloyds Sm Pkg | 143½ | | 3.7 | |
| 179½ | 159½ | Lon St Lawrence | 176½ + | ½ | 4.5 | 27.4 |
| 350½ | 292½ | Lowland | 348½ + | 2 | 4.2 | 29.9 |
| 812½ | 635 | M&G 2nd Dual Cp | 802 | | | |
| 85 | 50 | M&G 2nd Dual Inc | 50 | | | 1.6 |
| 85½ | 56 | M&G Inc Geared | 85 | + ½ | 9.5 | 15.2 |
| 61 | 31½ | M&G Inc Inv Tst Cp | 61 | + ½ | | |
| 32½ | 20½ | M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc | 24½ + | ½ | 29.0 | 4.0 |
| 165 | 128 | M&G Inc Package | 164½ + | 2 | 4.4 | 25.5 |
| 78½ | 71½ | M&G Inc Zero Co | 73½ | | | |
| 33½ | 13½ | M&G Rec Cap | 33 | + ½ | | |
| 59½ | 40½ | M&G Rec Geared | 55½ + | 2½ | 11.2 | 11.4 |
| 31 | 17½ | M&G Rec Inc | 29½ + | 1½ | 25.5 | 4.9 |
| 157½ | 142 | M&G Rec Pacge | 157½ + | 1½ | 4.3 | 32.2 |
| 111½ | 98½ | M&G Rec Zero Dn | 111½ + | ½ | | |
| 177½ | 142½ | M Curre Euro | 165 | + ½ | 0.6 | |
| 106 | 61½ | M Curre Japan | 65 | | | |
| 165½ | 97½ | M Curre Pac | 111½ + | 5½ | 1.2 | 76.4 |
| 304 | 242 | Mardart | 298 | | 1.3 | 45.3 |
| 368 | 273 | Merchants | 366½ - | ½ | 4.3 | 26.6 |
| 141 | 107½ | Mercury Euro Pv | 134½ + | 1½ | 2.1 | 35.8 |
| 56 | 30 | Mercury Euro Wt | 53½ | | | |
| 99½ | 57½ | Mercury Aomd | 60 | - ½ | 2.6 | 49.6 |
| 14 | 0½ | Mercury Wld Wts | 0½ | | | |
| 765 | 603 | Monks Inv Tst | 697½ + | 6 | 1.5 | 56.6 |
| 188½ | 158½ | Morg Gren Inc | 163½ | | 4.5 | 26.0 |
| 86 | 59½ | Morg Wts | 81½ | | | |
| 100½ | 68½ | Morg Lat Amer | 72 | | 0.5 | |
| 40½ | 20½ | Morg Wts | 21 | | | |
| 130½ | 110½ | Murray Emt | 116 | | 3.4 | 39.4 |
| 21½ | 11½ | Murray Eur Wts | 14 | | | |
| 88 | 53½ | Murray Emg Eco | 58½ - | ½ | 1.2 | 71.8 |
| 21½ | 6½ | Murray Em Ec Wt | 7 | | | |
| 462 | 364 | Murray Income | 455½ + | 1 | 3.3 | 25.0 |
| 501 | 401½ | Murray Intl | 480 | + 2½ | 3.6 | 29.5 |
| 30 | 132½ | Murray S/C EP | 206½ | | | |
| 289 | 183½ | Murray S/C Gw | 236 | + 5½ | | |
| 57½ | 37½ | Murray S/C Inc | 48 | | 3.5 | 5.0 |
| 4550 | 3150 | Murray S/C Uts | 4500 | | 3.4 | |
| 502 | 339½ | Murray Small | 345 | + 2 | 2.2 | 44.4 |
| 415 | 386 | Murray Vent | 401 | | 4.7 | 34.2 |
| 286 | 734 | Natwest Est | 281½ | | 2.2 | 43.4 |
| 5½ | 4½ | Newmarket | 5 | | | |
| 466½ | 353½ | O'seas Inv Tst | 448 | + 4 | 1.1 | |
| 251 | 156½ | O'seas Wts | 247½ + | 3½ | | |
| 126 | 34½ | Pacific Assets | 37½ + | ½ | 1.3 | 54.8 |
| 87 | 65½ | Perpetual Euro | 85½ | | 0.7 | |
| 129½ | 98 | Perp Inc Gth | 128½ + | ½ | 3.8 | 37.9 |
| 56 | 28 | Perpetual Jap | 31½ + | 1½ | | |
| 365½ | 292½ | Perpl UK Sm Co | 324½ | .. | 3.7 | 29.0 |
| £177½ | £128½ | Personal Assets | £171 | | 1.7 | |
| 137½ | 113½ | Prolific Inc | 133 | | 3.9 | 28.5 |
| 298½ | 229 | RIT Cap Ptnr | 274 | + 2 | 0.8 | |
| 569½ | 475½ | Robeco | 538½ | | 2.0 | |
| 577½ | 497 | Rolinco | 546 | | 1.0 | |
| 108½ | 37½ | Schrd Asia Pact | 49½ + | 1½ | 1.4 | |
| 96½ | 56½ | Schrod Emg Cal | 62½ + | 1 | | |
| 148½ | 117½ | Schrod Inc Gwth | 146 | + ½ | 3.9 | 26.2 |
| 75½ | 46½ | Schrod Jap Gwth | 52½ + | 3½ | .. | .. |
| 512½ | 133½ | Schrod Korea | 202½ - | 12 | | |
| 50½ | 19½ | Schrod Split Cap | 48½ + | 1½ | | |
| 122 | 102½ | Schrod Split Inc | 122 | | 8.6 | 15.0 |
| 158½ | 142½ | Schrod Split Zero | 158½ | | | |
| 153½ | 126½ | Schrod UK Gwth | 147 | + 1 | 2.9 | 39.7 |
| 201½ | 146½ | Schrod Vent Intl | 169½ - | ½ | 1.3 | |
| 341 | 273½ | Scoul | 321 | + 3 | 2.4 | 51.1 |
| 200½ | 169½ | Scot American | 191½ + | 1 | 3.5 | 38.3 |
| 311½ | 91½ | Scot Asian | 101½ + | 3½ | .. | |
| 128 | 98½ | Scot Eastern | 116 | + 1 | 2.0 | 46.0 |
| 355½ | 275½ | Scot Mtge | 327 | + 3 | 2.0 | 47.8 |
| 103 | 93 | Scot Natl Fst | 103 | | 10.0 | 10.8 |
| 130 | 111½ | Scot Value | 124 | + 1 | 2.0 | 25.0 |
| 2350 | 1980 | Second Allnce | 2251 | + 17 | 2.9 | 42.1 |
| 125 | 95½ | Secs Tst of Scot | 119½ + | ½ | 4.0 | 32.1 |
| 158½ | 133½ | Shires Smlr | 153 | | 5.0 | 24.6 |
| 138½ | 121½ | Smaller Cos | 138 | + ½ | 2.9 | 41.4 |
| 385 | 344½ | St Andrew Inv | 367 | | 3.3 | 38.1 |
| 505½ | 377½ | Temple Bar | 494½ | | 4.2 | 28.2 |
| 87½ | 72½ | Throgmorton | 84½ + | ½ | 3.4 | 40.5 |
| 169½ | 102½ | Tipton Emg Mk | 110 | + 1½ | 1.2 | 84.3 |
| 191 | 133 | TR Euro Growth | 169½ + | ½ | 0.7 | |
| 45½ | 34½ | TR Property | 45½ + | ½ | 2.8 | 31.8 |
| 463½ | 323 | TR Tech Invt | 389½ + | 2 | 12.2 | 31.2 |
| 353½ | 206½ | Tarkey Trust | 330 | | 1.4 | 68.8 |
| 183½ | 137½ | Underwood Ast | 151 | + ½ | 1.9 | 66.8 |
| 164 | 137 | Value Inc Tst | 160 | | 3.7 | 33.3 |
| 109½ | 75 | Value Rest | 106 | | 1.0 | 53.2 |
| 124½ | 86½ | Voyager Er Sm# | 115 | | 0.7 | .. |
| 45 | 30½ | Warrants & Val | 41½ | | | |
| 93 | 77½ | Wigmore | 91½ | | 1.1 | |
| 336 | 263 | Witan | 321 | + 4 | 2.8 | 45.2 |
| 83½ | 67 | Yeoman Inc | 70 | + ½ | 29.1 | 4.5 |

## LEISURE & HOTELS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 91½ | 16½ | ABI Les | 17 | - 2½ | 12.0 | .. |
| 1345 | 797 | Airtours | 1320 | - 7½ | 1.9 | 20.7 |
| 59½ | 26½ | Ald Les | 26½ | .. | 4.7 | 8.8 |
| 67½ | 37½ | Arcadian | 58½ | | 2.6 | 24.3 |
| 22½ | 9½ | Arena Les | 19½ | | | |
| 167½ | 122½ | BS Group | 145 | | 5.6 | |
| 132½ | 95 | Baldwin | 115 | | 4.3 | 16.1 |
| 200½ | 78 | Bluebird Toys | 85 | + ½ | 13.2 | 6.3 |
| 1075 | 700 | Boosey Hwks | 725 | | 1.7 | 27.2 |
| 41½ | 24½ | Bowdene | 31½ | | 8.5 | 7.7 |
| 218½ | 135½ | Capital Corpn | 151 | - 4 | 6.7 | 17.1 |
| 168½ | 93½ | Character Grp | 164½ | - 2 | 3.4 | 10.9 |
| 104½ | 48½ | Clevedes | 80½ | - 1 | 5.2 | 12.2 |
| 100½ | 74½ | Clubhaus | 78½ | | | 21.4 |
| 250 | 180 | Eurocamp | 225 | | 7.2 | 9.1 |
| 126 | 67 | Euro Disney | 71 | | | |
| 198½ | 120½ | Euro Leisure | 137½ | | 3.6 | 6.0 |
| 175½ | 72½ | First Choice | 115 | | 3.1 | |
| 376½ | 235 | First Leisure | 290 | - 1½ | 3.7 | 15.9 |
| 171½ | 119 | Friendly Hotels | 120 | | 5.9 | 17.8 |
| 1000 | 668 | Granada | 983 | + 16 | 1.8 | 20.2 |
| 90 | 29½ | Hi-Tec Sports | 46 | | 5.5 | 8.7 |
| 228½ | 160½ | Holmes Place | 213½ | - 4 | 1.8 | 27.0 |
| 244½ | 165½ | Hornby | 168½ | | 4.8 | 8.2 |
| 488½ | 255 | Hozelock | 336 | | 4.2 | 17.8 |
| 185½ | 139½ | Jarvis Hotels | 154½ | - ½ | 3.4 | 9.9 |
| 422½ | 272 | Jurys Hotel | 422½ + | 1½ | 2.0 | 18.8 |
| 28 | 21 | Kunick | 26½ | | 3.8 | 12.9 |
| 310 | 217½ | Ladbroke | 291 | - 1½ | 2.7 | 26.2 |
| 419 | 261½ | London Clubs | 303 | - 2 | 3.4 | 21.8 |
| 231 | 167½ | Macdonald Htl | 183½ - | ½ | 3.2 | 13.8 |
| 183½ | 143½ | Man Utd | 158 | + 1½ | 1.2 | 21.2 |
| 91 | 30½ | Mandarin Orntl | 36½ | - 3 | 10.6 | 6.7 |
| 460½ | 333 | Millennium & Cop | 460½ + | 5½ | 1.8 | 19.1 |
| 1½ | 1 | Millwall Hldgs | 1 | | | |
| 144½ | 91½ | Newcastle Utd | 94½ + | 1 | 2.1 | 13.8 |
| 480½ | 199½ | Northern | 477½ | | 1.6 | 37.2 |
| 168½ | 65 | Prism Leisure | 65 | | 13.8 | 3.2 |
| 38 | 22½ | Queensborough | 22½ - | ½ | 2.2 | 9.7 |
| 18½ | 10½ | Queens Moat | 14½ - | | | 4.0 |
| 458½ | 278 | Rank Grp | 343 | + 16½ | 6.3 | 21.3 |
| 65 | 35 | Regal Hotel | 41 | | 3.3 | 10.9 |
| 57½ | 40½ | Ryan Hotels IE | 55½ + | 2 | 3.9 | 11.6 |
| 1600 | 1157½ | Savoy Hotel 'A' | 1285 | + 5 | 1.7 | .. |
| 111½ | 39½ | Sheffield United | 42 | | | |
| 267½ | 184½ | Sinclair (Wm) | 240½ - | 2 | 4.6 | 12.7 |
| 153½ | 47 | Southampton | 75½ | | 1.7 | |
| 110½ | 91 | Stakis | 102 | + 3½ | 3.1 | 15.3 |
| 320 | 235½ | Stanley Leisure | 275 | | 1.9 | 19.3 |
| 17 | 4 | Tandem | 6 | | | 72.4 |
| 346 | 346 | Tanpong | 346 | | 0.8 | 39.4 |
| 219 | 120½ | Thistle Hotels | 164 | + 1½ | 2.8 | 15.2 |
| 142 | 73 | Tottenhm Hsl | 73 | | 1.7 | 10.0 |
| 137½ | 94 | Vardon | 137½ | | 2.0 | 16.3 |
| 411 | 265½ | Wembley | 325 | | 1.2 | 76.1 |
| 158½ | 89½ | Zetters Gp | 151½ | | 9.0 | 9.3 |

## MEDIA

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 286½ | 303½ | Abbott Mead | 338 | | 2.2 | 36.4 |
| 169½ | 107½ | Adscene | 158½ | | 6.7 | 17.2 |
| 63 | 55½ | Aegis Gp | 67 | | 1.0 | 12.3 |
| 231 | 30 | Acsten Grp | 90 | | 8.7 | |
| 170½ | 120 | Atlantic Telecom | 155 | - ½ | | |
| 90½ | 42½ | BBB Design | 72½ | | | |
| 232 | 185 | Barbour Index | 185 | | 6.9 | 20.6 |
| 25 | 11½ | Bindale | 14½ | | | |
| 385 | 315 | Black (A&C) | 356 | | 4.9 | 17.0 |
| 439½ | 257½ | Border TV | 301 | + 1 | 2.9 | 22.9 |
| 528 | 405 | Bristol | 415 | | 4.8 | 14.2 |
| 142½ | 99½ | Brit Allcroft | 137½ | | 1.6 | 20.9 |
| 666½ | 258 | BSkyB | 410 | - 7½ | 1.8 | 25.3 |
| 159½ | 120½ | CIA Gp | 166½ | | 1.3 | 31.9 |
| 530 | 447½ | Capital Radio | 549 | - 16½ | 3.1 | 17.0 |
| 577½ | 435 | Carlton Comms | 445 | - 2 | 3.5 | 12.6 |
| 612½ | 512½ | Chrysalis | 612½ | | 0.6 | |
| 35½ | 63 | City of Lon | 77½ | | 9.9 | 10.0 |
| 112½ | 9½ | Cordiant Comms | 98½ | - 1 | 1.5 | 11.7 |
| 174 | 134½ | Creative Pub | 156 | | 5.6 | 55.2 |
| 2191½ | 1431½ | Daily Mail | 2177½ + | 21½ | 1.3 | 25.4 |
| 2125½ | 1331½ | Daily Mail 'A' | 2128½ + | 18½ | 1.4 | 24.9 |
| 216½ | 129½ | Dialog | 187½ | - 1 | | |
| 433 | 195 | Dorling Kind | 245 | + 5½ | 2.3 | 40.6 |
| 987½ | 715½ | EMAP | 967½ | + 4 | 1.8 | 22.7 |
| 565 | 440 | EMI | 475 | + 3 | 3.5 | 66.1 |
| 1127½ | 941½ | Elsevier | 986½ | - 3½ | 2.6 | 32.9 |
| 1840 | 1400 | Euromoney Pbl | 1555 | - 5 | 4.1 | 17.1 |
| 57½ | 37 | Fitch | 52 | | 1.5 | 12.8 |
| 823½ | 502½ | Flextech | 506 | - 1 | | |
| 112½ | 84½ | Aberdeen Asset | 94 | - 1 | 5.0 | 28.3 |
| 530 | 250 | AMVESCAP | 496 | - 3 | 1.3 | 19.3 |
| 135½ | 105½ | BWD | 130½ + | 2 | 5.9 | 14.2 |
| 57½ | 45½ | Berry Bch Ntl | 49½ + | 2 | 7.6 | 12.3 |
| 383 | 273 | Biotec Inv | 278½ + | 2½ | | |
| 259½ | 192½ | Brown Dolphin | 259 | | 4.1 | 14.4 |
| 787½ | 558½ | Caledonia | 730½ + | 1½ | 3.3 | 19.4 |
| 3100 | 2225 | CamsCo | 2875 | + 75 | 1.5 | 12.2 |
| 434 | 263 | Cattles | 417 | + 2½ | 2.8 | 22.9 |
| 61½ | 40½ | Cassie | 43½ | | 2.9 | 14.2 |
| 570 | 356½ | Close Bros | 570 | + 2 | 2.6 | 19.1 |
| 610 | 440 | EFM | 453 | | 6.9 | 16.1 |
| 66½ | 30½ | Exco | 31 | | 14.5 | 12.7 |
| 24½ | 17½ | Fcdors Intl | 24½ + | ½ | 2.8 | 15.4 |
| 385½ | 270 | Gerrard | 357½ - | 4 | 5.5 | 16.0 |
| 276½ | 213 | Hambros | 255 | + 2½ | 3.7 | 24.5 |
| 1452½ | 1125 | Henderson | 1460 | - 20 | 3.9 | 21.4 |
| 154½ | 142½ | Hitach Cred | 151½ | | 3.5 | 13.9 |
| 150 | 94½ | Investment Co | 150 | | 2.9 | |
| 257½ | 194 | Ivory Sime# | 197 | | 5.8 | 13.2 |
| 269½ | 134½ | Jardine Strat | 148½ + | 6½ | 6.0 | 7.3 |
| 155½ | 72½ | Johnson Fry | 116½ | | 4.3 | 13.0 |
| 635 | 465 | Leopold J | 617½ | | 4.0 | 27.1 |
| 506½ | 439½ | Liberty Intl | 492½ | | 4.3 | 27.4 |
| 483½ | 299½ | Lon Forfaing | 345½ + | 2 | 4.4 | 11.4 |
| 229½ | 173½ | London Pacific | 174½ | | 10.2 | 5.2 |
| 116½ | 88½ | Lon Scot Bk | 111 | | 3.5 | 19.4 |
| 252½ | 179½ | Man ED & F | 251½ | | 5.6 | 10.1 |
| 1490 | 1097½ | M & G | 1490 | + 32½ | 3.4 | 24.1 |
| 1710 | 1172½ | MAM | 1695 | | 3.5 | 26.9 |
| 205½ | 112½ | Paragon | 192 | - ½ | 1.8 | 7.8 |
| 2830 | 2155 | Perpetual | 2750 | + 27½ | 2.8 | 18.6 |
| 819½ | 500 | Provident | 818½ + | 5 | 2.7 | 26.1 |
| 407 | 303 | Rathbone Brs | 405 | + 1½ | 3.9 | 14.3 |
| 60½ | 29½ | Rea Brothers | 55½ | | 2.2 | 19.5 |
| 64½ | 44½ | Rutland Tst | 53½ + | ½ | 3.4 | 13.3 |
| 157½ | 81 | SEC Group | 86 | | 7.4 | 6.7 |
| 445 | 302 | S & U | 334½ | | 6.9 | 8.8 |
| 2045 | 1370 | Schroders | 1880 | + 10 | 1.4 | 19.4 |
| 1880 | 1225 | Schroders N/V | 1729 | - 19 | 1.5 | 19.0 |

## MINING

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7000 | 2850 | Ang Am Coal | 2650 | | 6.5 | 6.2 |
| 3993½ | 1975 | Ang Am | 2100 | + 6½ | 4.1 | |
| 4940½ | 2068½ | Ang Am Gold | 2281½ | | 7.2 | |
| 1168½ | 643½ | Anglo Am Plat | 753½ + | 12½ | 2.6 | .. |
| 22½ | 16½ | Anglo Pac Res | 20½ | | | |
| 49½ | 28½ | Arcon Intl | 29 | | | |
| 952½ | 408½ | Ashanti | 476½ + | 27 | 3.9 | 12.3 |
| 107 | 49½ | Ashton | 57½ | | 9.8 | |
| 243½ | 83 | Avocal | 59 | + 2½ | | |
| 419½ | 182 | Beatox | 198 | + 5½ | 8.9 | 10.3 |
| 252½ | 137 | Billiton | 139½ + | 1½ | 4.4 | 14.2 |
| 35½ | 26½ | Bisichi | 31½ | | 3.2 | 35.4 |
| 33½ | 17½ | Bougainville | 17½ | | | |
| 527½ | 216 | Central Pacific | 226½ | | | |
| 109½ | 21½ | Cons Murchison | 22½ + | ½ | | |
| 2416½ | 1096½ | De Beers | 1096½ | | 6.4 | 10.8 |
| 713 | 347½ | Driefontein | 378½ + | 15½ | 3.4 | |
| 549½ | 71 | Durban | 103½ + | 3½ | | |
| 116½ | 52 | E Rand Gold | 61½ + | 3½ | 28.3 | 3.5 |
| 31½ | 11 | E Rand Prop | 11½ | | | |
| 323½ | 117½ | Elandsrand | 161 | + 15½ | 11.2 | |
| 292½ | 181 | Eng China Cl | 240 | - ½ | 6.5 | 18.4 |
| 489½ | 94½ | Evander | 122½ + | 7½ | 13.1 | 3.0 |
| 551½ | 221½ | FS Cons | 271½ + | 16½ | 14.4 | 6.9 |
| 69½ | 17 | FS Dev | 21 | | | |
| 1790½ | 753½ | GFSA | 881½ + | 6½ | 3.2 | |
| 179 | 85½ | Gencor | 86 | + ½ | 4.3 | 5.5 |
| 197 | 110½ | Gold Fields Prop | 111 | | 7.3 | 9.2 |
| 27 | 12 | Greenwich R 'A' | 15½ | | | |
| 140½ | 29½ | Gwalia Cons | 33½ | | 2.3 | 6.1 |
| 548½ | 112½ | Harmony | 136½ + | 15½ | | |
| 868½ | 443½ | Impala Plat | 631½ + | 25 | 1.9 | |
| 39 | 11 | Kenneco Res | 11½ | | | |
| 78½ | 16 | Kidston | 16½ | | | |
| 559½ | 182½ | Kloof | 213 | + 6½ | 6.4 | |
| 29 | 6½ | Meckatharra | 8½ | | | |
| 94 | 29 | MIM | 31½ | | 3.2 | |
| 1503½ | 812½ | Minorco | 816½ + | 3½ | 4.3 | 8.3 |
| 162 | 65 | Monlagia | 90 | | 5.8 | |
| 88½ | 50½ | Normandy | 55½ | | 4.3 | 11.7 |
| 237½ | 148½ | North | 156½ | | 3.3 | 21.7 |
| 385 | 22½ | Peloling Tin | 29½ | | 1.4 | |
| 285½ | 85½ | RGC | 94½ | | 4.2 | 4.9 |
| 455 | 125 | RJB | 139½ | | 19.7 | 1.7 |
| 55 | 26½ | Redwood | 27 | | 15.3 | 6.3 |
| 300½ | 76 | Randfontein | 84½ + | ½ | 7.3 | 19.4 |
| 1129 | 641 | Rio Tinto | 725 | - ½ | 4.6 | 14.4 |
| 1064 | 653½ | Rio Tinto Ltd | 714 | | 3.9 | 17.1 |
| 44½ | 5½ | St Barbara | 5½ | | | |
| 397½ | 158½ | St Helena | 188½ + | 6½ | 12.5 | |
| 348½ | 128½ | Sons Gwalia | 153 | | 8.5 | 11.0 |
| 220½ | 97½ | Stern Pacific | 105½ | | | |
| 1859½ | 734½ | Southvaal | 985½ + | 84½ | 10.8 | 9.3 |
| 4793½ | 1881½ | Vaal Reefs | 2243½ | | 9.8 | |
| 418 | 177 | WMC | 179½ | | 3.8 | 15.6 |
| 37½ | 15 | Wankie Col Z | 15 | | 7.5 | 5.1 |
| 67½ | 27½ | Water Hall | 65½ | | | |
| 460 | 405 | Wick Bole | 441½ | | 4.6 | 15.5 |
| 2162½ | 881½ | Western Deep | 1128½ + | 66½ | 7.2 | |
| 205 | 66½ | Zambia Copper | 118½ | | | |

## OIL & GAS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 175 | 113½ | Abbot Group | 159 | + 1 | 1.6 | 25.5 |
| 85½ | 30½ | Alliance Res | 22½ + | 1 | | |
| 111 | 66½ | Aus Oil & Gas | 66 | | | |
| 42½ | 14½ | Aztec Pet | 17½ + | 1 | | |
| 523½ | 257½ | Br Borneo | 376 | - 3½ | 0.9 | 48.6 |
| 338 | 134 | BG | 325 | + 6 | 3.1 | 23.2 |
| 965 | 662 | Br Petroleum | 815½ - | 5½ | 3.3 | 18.3 |
| 2½ | 1 | Bula Resources | 1½ | | | |
| 1139 | 835 | Burmah Castrl | 986 | + 1 | 5.9 | 13.8 |
| 639 | 415 | Cairn Energy | 445 | + 6½ | | |
| 108 | 55 | Cantlon | 108½ + | 3½ | | |
| 24½ | 10½ | Caplex Res | 11½ | | | |
| 36½ | 14½ | Dana Pet | 21½ | - ½ | | |
| 101½ | 31½ | Dragon Oil | 58½ | - 11½ | | |
| 38½ | 22½ | Edin Oil & Gs | 29½ | | 1.4 | 16.5 |
| 8½ | 3½ | Emerald Energy | 8 | + 1 | | |
| 734½ | 543 | Enterprise | 548½ - | 6½ | 4.0 | 20.2 |
| 16½ | 9½ | Fortune | 12 | | | 45.1 |
| 372½ | 257½ | Hardy Oil | 258 | - 3½ | 0.6 | 55.9 |
| 105½ | 29 | JKX Oil & Gas | 43 | | | |
| 352½ | 235½ | KBC Adv Tech | 330½ - | 1 | 1.2 | 33.6 |
| 300 | 216½ | LASMO | 263 | + 3 | 0.8 | 70.6 |
| 47½ | 40½ | Lasmo Unts | 40½ | | 22.4 | |
| 92 | 67½ | Monument | 81½ - | ½ | | 42.5 |
| 3784½ | 2778½ | Norsk Hydro | 2812½ - | 6½ | 2.0 | 9.0 |
| 201 | 95½ | Oil Search | 107½ | | | |
| 61½ | 30½ | Petroz | 41½ | | | |
| 58 | 34½ | Premier | 52½ - | ½ | 1.3 | 10.3 |
| 65½ | 39 | Pittencrieff Rs | 53½ | | | 34.2 |
| 665½ | 348½ | Ranger | 348½ | .. | 5.6 | 6.1 |
| 3300 | 2521½ | Royal Dtch Fl | 3125 | | 2.7 | 21.5 |
| 5618½ | 3950 | Schlumberger | 4668½ + | 46½ | 1.0 | .. |
| 492 | 329½ | Shell | 414 | - 2½ | 3.8 | 21.4 |
| 404½ | 234½ | SOCO Intl | 357½ | | | |
| 7325 | 4668½ | Total | 6025 | + 37½ | 2.6 | 21.1 |
| 630½ | 187½ | XCL | 332½ | | | |

## OTHER FINANCIAL

(Entries listed in MEDIA table above from Aberdeen Asset to Schroders N/V.)

## PHARMACEUTICALS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 285 | 96 | Brit Biotech | 125½ + | 3 | | .. |
| 1115 | 582½ | Cantab Pharms | 645 | + 15 | | ... |
| 673 | 247½ | Celltech | 318½ - | 1½ | | |
| 443½ | 215 | Chiroscience | 247½ - | 8½ | | |
| 192 | 167½ | Cortecs | 179 | - 2 | | |
| 1652 | 885½ | Glaxo Well | 1587 | + 74 | 2.6 | 32.6 |
| 245 | 75½ | ML Laboratories | 118½ - | 2 | | |
| 330½ | 156½ | Medeva | 165 | - ½ | 3.5 | 30.8 |
| 403 | 228½ | Peptide Ther | 291½ | | | |
| 206½ | 177½ | Powderject | 206½ | | | |
| 92 | 24½ | Proteus Intl | 60 | | | .. |
| 84 | 56 | Ransom (Wm) | 64 | | 4.9 | 13.3 |
| 737½ | 237½ | Scotia | 310 | - 2½ | | |
| 315 | 216 | Shire Pharms | 315 | + 5½ | | .. |
| 95 | 46 | SkyePharma | 53½ | | | |
| 682 | 384½ | SmithKline | 682 | + 22 | 1.6 | 33.9 |
| 392 | 180 | Therp Anti Inc | 207½ - | 1½ | | |
| 707½ | 367½ | Vanguard | 465 | + 9 | | .. |
| 83½ | 40½ | Vanguard Wts | 77½ | | | |
| 435 | 145 | Xenova | 164 | - 8 | | |
| 2291 | 1585½ | Zeneca | 2225 | + 48 | 2.0 | 29.7 |

## PRINTING & PAPER

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 142 | 86 | AG Holdings | 88 | .. | 8.9 | 11.4 |
| 782 | 540 | APH | 540 | | 2.8 | 14.9 |
| 77½ | 47½ | App Helo | 70½ | | | |
| 208 | 151 | Arjo Wiggins | 157 | - 2½ | 5.5 | 10.6 |
| 24 | 17½ | Bath Presst | 21 | | 3.2 | 8.9 |
| 450½ | 369½ | Barrose | 440½ + | 1 | 4.4 | 12.8 |
| 229½ | 130 | Blagden | 156½ | | 2.1 | 10.2 |
| 3490½ | 2178½ | Bowater Inc | 2718½ | | | |
| 326½ | 243½ | Bowmore Intl | 248½ + | 2½ | 1.6 | 17.3 |
| 745 | 429 | Br Polythene | 476½ | | 4.9 | 11.3 |
| 25 | 10½ | Br Thornton | 21½ | | | |
| 148 | 49 | Britton Grp | 138½ | | 3.1 | 15.8 |
| 276½ | 188 | Bund | 241½ + | 3 | 3.1 | 14.9 |
| 233½ | 120 | Capital Inds | 141½ | | 5.2 | 11.7 |
| 388½ | 250½ | Cropper (James) | 251 | | 2.4 | 9.0 |
| 673½ | 323 | De La Rue | 391½ - | 2½ | 7.7 | 10.2 |
| 267½ | 185½ | Dolphin Pack | 252½ | | 3.7 | 14.6 |
| 75½ | 35½ | Fairway Group | 67½ | | 7.4 | 20.8 |
| 238 | 80 | Ferguson Intl | 80 | - 4 | 28.7 | 6.1 |
| 165½ | 120½ | Filofax | 148½ | | 3.3 | 10.1 |
| 134 | 62½ | Inveresk | 70 | | 10.3 | 7.2 |
| 248½ | 177½ | Jarvis Porter | 206½ | | 4.5 | 12.1 |
| 452 | 305 | Low & Bonar | 319½ | | 5.8 | 9.6 |
| 128½ | 70 | MY Holdings | 74½ | | 4.5 | 10.1 |
| 198½ | 147½ | Macfarlane | 177 | - ½ | 2.9 | 16.0 |
| 245 | 81½ | Photobition | 229 | | 0.8 | 37.9 |
| 179½ | 142½ | Plysu | 147½ | | 6.7 | 11.2 |
| 33 | 19½ | Porter Chadbn | 27 | | 3.7 | 8.6 |
| 371 | 232½ | REXAM | 253 | - 18½ | 6.8 | 17.0 |
| 557½ | 311 | St Ives Gp | 530½ | | 2.8 | 16.0 |
| 665½ | 231½ | Sappi | 244½ - | 1½ | 3.6 | |
| 5 | 0½ | Security & General | 4½ + | ½ | | |
| 115½ | 67½ | Sidlaw | 96 | + ½ | 2.9 | 26.4 |
| 314 | 186½ | Smith David | 197½ - | 10 | 5.1 | 12.3 |
| 214½ | 150½ | Smurfit (Jef) | 167½ - | 3 | 2.7 | 14.5 |
| 182 | 86½ | Sowiet | 143½ | | 2.7 | 15.7 |
| 149½ | 103 | Tinsley Robert | 145½ - | ½ | 2.6 | 16.2 |
| 105 | 16 | Vacs | 20½ + | ½ | 18.5 | .. |
| 328½ | 230½ | Waddington | 270 | | 5.0 | 11.9 |
| 448 | 175 | Watmough | 280 | + ½ | 4.7 | 14.4 |
| 245½ | 180½ | Wyndeham | 227½ + | 1 | 3.0 | 13.8 |

## PROPERTY

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 98 | 69½ | Allied Lon | 98 | .. | 5.1 | 11.8 |
| 177½ | 135 | Asda | 162½ | | 2.2 | 25.7 |
| 40 | 25½ | Ashquay Grp | 31½ | | | |
| 145½ | 124½ | Ashbone Hldgs | 142½ - | 1 | 4.4 | 15.3 |
| 248½ | 183½ | Benchmark | 248½ + | 1 | 1.5 | 38.7 |
| 265½ | 223½ | Billon | 259½ | | 5.2 | 19.4 |
| 220½ | 148½ | Biddy | 152½ - | 2½ | 7.2 | 10.0 |
| 12½ | 3 | Bolton Gp | 4 | + ½ | | |
| 60½ | 38½ | Bourne End | 54½ | | 2.8 | 66.7 |
| 319½ | 259½ | Bradford | 293½ + | 4½ | 3.7 | 20.5 |
| 737 | 498 | Br Land | 716 | + 30 | 1.5 | 40.7 |
| 233½ | 186½ | Brixton | 223 | + ½ | 5.1 | 19.3 |
| 159 | 98½ | Burford | 116 | + 2 | 2.4 | 39.2 |
| 137 | 112 | CLS Hldgs | 136 | | 5.1 | 15.4 |
| 288½ | 210½ | Cap & Regnl | 270½ + | 4 | 1.4 | 23.0 |
| 458½ | 356½ | Cap Shop Ctrs | 408½ | | 2.6 | 31.9 |
| 296½ | 195 | Cardiff Prop | 268½ | | 1.4 | 37.5 |
| 14½ | 8½ | Carlisle | 10½ | | | 45.0 |
| 14½ | 9½ | Cathay Intl | 10½ | | | 40.4 |
| 398½ | 279 | Chelsfield | 353 | | 1.1 | 52.9 |
| 670 | 560 | Chesterfield | 597½ | | 2.8 | |
| 81 | 19½ | Chesterton Int | 32 | + 1 | 3.8 | |
| 57½ | 38½ | City Site Ests | 47½ | | | |
| 123 | 94 | Cleveland Tst | 104 | - 1 | 7.3 | 13.0 |
| 85½ | 59½ | CNC Props | 85½ + | 1 | 4.5 | 8.5 |
| 190½ | 139½ | Compcol | 187½ | | 2.8 | 15.6 |
| 1640 | 1335 | Daejan | 1640 | | 2.9 | 17.1 |
| 27½ | 11½ | Dares Estates | 17½ | | | 10.8 |
| 105½ | 56 | Debenhm Twsn | 105½ | | 3.4 | 12.3 |
| 82½ | 65½ | Delancey Ests | 72½ | | 2.7 | 14.8 |
| 209½ | 164½ | Denora | 202½ | | 2.8 | 11.7 |
| 579½ | 467½ | Derwent Hldgs | 579½ + | 2 | 1.3 | 36.0 |
| 297½ | 205½ | Development Sec | 295 | | 1.2 | 18.2 |
| 185 | 111 | Edge Properties | 184½ | | | 19.7 |
| 425 | 360 | Estates Agency | 420 | | 4.9 | 29.1 |
| 80½ | 50 | Estates Gen | 80 | | 1.1 | 10.0 |
| 158½ | 128½ | Evans Of Leeds | 148 | | 3.0 | 17.0 |
| 33½ | 25½ | Five Oaks | 31 | | 3.6 | 10.5 |
| 41 | 27½ | Fletcher King | 37 | | 6.9 | 12.0 |
| 74½ | 64½ | Follies Group | 65½ | | 3.8 | 4.7 |
| 71½ | 59½ | Follies Group av | 60½ | .. | 4.1 | 4.4 |
| 604 | 481 | Frogmore | 467½ | | 5.3 | 14.2 |
| 25½ | 18 | Golden Land Inv | 18½ | | | |
| 364½ | 265½ | Grainger | 330 | | 2.9 | 16.0 |
| 277 | 192 | Gr Portland | 267½ + | 6 | 4.2 | 29.4 |
| 182½ | 116½ | Granchester | 170 | | 0.7 | 51.1 |
| 222½ | 147½ | Greycoat | 221½ + | 1 | 0.8 | 29.0 |
| 142½ | 94 | Hambro Cntyw | 124 | + 1 | 2.5 | 8.1 |
| 528½ | 397 | Hammerson | 491 | + 1 | 2.8 | 31.6 |
| 39½ | 25 | Hampton Trust | 31 | | | |
| 583 | 388½ | Helical Bar | 578½ | | 2.2 | 15.9 |
| 48½ | 34½ | Hemingway | 48½ + | | 1.5 | 15.5 |
| 60½ | 17½ | High-Pointfield | 54½ + | 1 | | |
| 215½ | 69½ | HK Land | 89 | + 5 | 8.3 | 9.3 |
| 216 | 148 | Jermyn | 215 | + 5 | 3.3 | 47.4 |
| 117½ | 80½ | LSH | 98½ | | 2.0 | 7.2 |
| 122½ | 65 | Lands Ime | 91½ | | 8.5 | 20.7 |
| 1080 | 635½ | Land Sec | 1040 | + 25 | 3.3 | 29.9 |
| 40½ | 31½ | Lon & Assoc | 33½ | | 3.1 | 13.6 |
| 10½ | 3½ | Lon & Metro | 10½ + | ½ | | |
| 124½ | 97½ | Lon Merch Sect | 123 | + ½ | 5.0 | 11.3 |
| 552½ | 428½ | MEPC | 552 | + 12½ | 3.9 | 25.1 |
| 128 | 66 | MWB Group | 105 | | 3.0 | |
| 147 | 101½ | McKay Secs | 144½ | | 3.6 | 33.1 |
| 66½ | 43½ | Marwide Mw | 65½ | | 4.3 | 31.7 |
| 302½ | 226 | Milnes Est | 289½ + | | 3.3 | 16.4 |
| 217½ | 152½ | Minerva | 216 | | 0.9 | |
| 33½ | 23½ | Moorfield Est | 27½ | | 2.3 | |
| 1740½ | 1309½ | Mountview | 1740½ | | 3.0 | 12.1 |
| 162½ | 125 | Muckow (A&J) | 161½ | .. | 5.4 | 18.8 |
| 46 | 32 | OEM | 34½ | | | 1.9 |
| 65½ | 45½ | ORB | 54½ | | | |
| 38½ | 24½ | Olives Prop | 35½ | | 1.8 | 16.9 |
| 732½ | 471½ | Peel | 660 | + 5 | 1.5 | |
| 292½ | 194½ | Pillar Prop | 287½ + | 1 | 2.3 | 41.8 |
| 38½ | 10½ | Premier Land | 13 | | | |
| 204½ | 131½ | Quintain | 200 | - ½ | 2.2 | 33.4 |
| 28½ | 20½ | Raglan | 27½ - | ½ | 5.5 | 10.9 |
| 48½ | 25½ | Regalian | 37 | | 5.0 | 13.3 |
| 172½ | 105½ | Rugby Est | 163½ | | 1.9 | 21.6 |
| 85 | 61½ | St Modwen Prp | 71½ | .. | 4.6 | 9.1 |
| 65½ | 51½ | Saville Grdn (J) | 62½ + | ½ | 6.0 | 23.3 |
| 135 | 91 | Savills | 129 | + ½ | 3.7 | 8.9 |
| 103 | 79½ | Scot Mtl | 98½ | | 3.8 | 17.8 |
| 222 | 156 | Shaftesbury | 221 | | 1.3 | 51.2 |
| 378½ | 280½ | Slough Estates | 378½ + | 8½ | 3.0 | 35.8 |
| 267½ | 193 | Smart (J) | 257½ | | 4.8 | 9.6 |
| 96 | 75½ | TBI | 95½ - | ½ | 2.0 | 31.3 |
| 198½ | 163½ | Tops Ests | 194½ | | 1.2 | 41.9 |
| 115 | 82½ | Town Centre | 106½ + | 1 | 4.5 | 13.4 |
| 168½ | 123½ | Trafford Park | 159½ | | 3.1 | 17.9 |
| 132½ | 92½ | UK Land | 94½ | | 4.0 | 12.8 |
| 269½ | 208½ | Warner | 253½ - | 7 | 6.6 | |
| 268 | 208 | Warnford | 260 | | 3.8 | 16.2 |
| 115½ | 88½ | Wales | 110½ | | | |
| 30½ | 19 | Whitney Mck | 28½ + | ½ | | |
| 398½ | 327½ | Workspace Grp | 387½ | | 4.9 | 15.4 |

## RETAILERS, FOOD

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 197½ | 105½ | ASDA Group | 195 | + 8 | 2.0 | 18.2 |
| 90½ | 38½ | Budgen | 80½ | | 3.0 | 12.3 |
| 63½ | 41½ | Dairy Farm Intl | 58½ + | 1 | 6.3 | 79.7 |
| 248½ | 183 | Farepak | 195 | | 3.3 | 13.9 |
| 62½ | 35½ | Fitzwilton | 40½ | | 7.0 | 11.1 |
| 120 | 80 | Fyffes | 116½ - | 1 | 2.1 | |
| 2200 | 1335 | Greggs | 2025 | | 2.1 | 19.5 |
| 137½ | 76½ | Iceland Group | 128½ - | 1½ | 5.3 | 10.4 |
| 353½ | 265 | Kwik Save | 286 | - 3 | 8.7 | 10.4 |
| 235½ | 144 | Morrison (W) | 235½ + | 1½ | 0.9 | 20.7 |
| 67½ | 39 | Park Foods | 46 | + 1 | 8.3 | 13.1 |
| 8½ | 5½ | Regina Hlth | 6½ | | | |
| 430 | 307 | Safeway | 366 | + 11½ | 4.8 | 13.1 |
| 530 | 307 | Sainsbury J | 500 | - 3 | 3.1 | 20.4 |
| 252½ | 161½ | Somerfield | 245½ - | 3 | 5.2 | 9.2 |
| 206½ | 152½ | T & S Stores | 208½ + | 4 | 4.8 | 11.5 |
| 548 | 327 | Tesco | 512 | + 11 | 2.6 | 20.4 |
| 270 | 189½ | Thorntons | 270 | + 2½ | 2.7 | 21.7 |
| 516½ | 335½ | Watson& Philip | 508½ + | 2½ | 4.4 | 12.3 |

## RETAILERS, GENERAL

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 275½ | 166½ | Alexon | 275½ + | ½ | | 15.4 |
| 252½ | 174½ | Alders | 251½ | | 4.1 | 12.0 |
| 320 | 166 | Allied Carpets | 176½ - | 2 | 5.3 | 14.3 |
| 768½ | 435 | Argos | 442 | - 63 | 4.8 | 13.5 |
| 169 | 19½ | Ashley (Laura) | 20 | - 6 | 3.8 | 39.4 |
| 256½ | 187½ | Austin Reed | 190 | | 4.4 | 12.8 |
| 364½ | 287½ | Beale | 328½ | | 3.3 | 11.0 |
| 171½ | 141½ | Beattie (J) | 165½ | | 6.4 | 12.4 |
| 161½ | 121½ | Bentalls | 141½ | | 2.5 | 5.1 |
| 127½ | 85½ | Betterware | 108 | | 4.2 | 15.2 |
| 552 | 350½ | Blacks Lsst | 485 | | 1.2 | 18.8 |
| 208½ | 136½ | Body Shop | 137½ - | 3½ | 4.5 | 14.5 |
| 950 | 597½ | Boots | 840 | + 6½ | 3.1 | 19.5 |
| 40 | 11½ | Brown & Jackson | 32 | | | |
| 449½ | 375 | Brown (N) | 417½ | | 2.1 | 23.1 |
| 162½ | 113½ | Burton | 147½ + | 1½ | 2.9 | 15.6 |
| 524½ | 424 | Carpetright | 482 | - 7 | 5.6 | 15.6 |
| 335½ | 220 | Christies Int | 263 | | 2.4 | 18.8 |
| 550 | 405 | Church | 427½ | | 4.7 | 13.1 |
| 114½ | 99½ | Clinton Cards | 103½ | | 2.6 | 14.8 |
| 138½ | 65 | Cty Casuals | 132½ | | | |
| 240½ | 148½ | Country Gdns | 197½ | | 1.0 | 14.6 |
| 615 | 372½ | Courts Furnish | 372½ - | 5 | 1.3 | 16.0 |
| 556 | 501 | DFS Furncum | 501½ - | 5 | 3.2 | 20.7 |
| 723 | 462 | Dixons Grp | 498 | - 7 | 2.8 | 14.9 |
| 53½ | 19½ | Elec Boutique | 46½ - | ½ | | 24.0 |
| 6 | 2½ | ERA Gp | 3½ | | | |
| 103½ | 46½ | Essex Furn | 69½ | | 6.7 | 14.1 |
| 142½ | 102½ | Etam | 133½ | | 1.2 | |
| 207 | 146½ | Fine Art Devt | 177½ + | 1 | 6.8 | 13.7 |
| 315 | 112½ | Fired Earth | 253½ | 1½ | 1.2 | 30.9 |
| 486½ | 177½ | Flying Flw Uts | 464½ - | 2 | 1.2 | 23.9 |
| 149½ | 70½ | Formimster | 96½ | | 3.3 | 41.1 |
| 400 | 267 | French Conn | 370 | .. | 1.0 | 15.4 |
| 63½ | 34½ | Greves | 44½ | | 3.2 | |
| 404½ | 256 | Goldsmiths Gp | 275 | | 3.3 | 15.8 |
| 162½ | 115½ | Grampian Hdg | 138 | | 6.1 | 11.3 |
| 798½ | 579 | GUS | 749 | + 15 | 3.1 | 19.5 |
| 313½ | 231½ | H&C Furnishing | 290 | + 1½ | 2.6 | 44.8 |
| 401½ | 239 | Hamleys | 278½ | | 4.2 | 15.4 |
| 97½ | 59½ | Hampden Grp | 86½ | | 3.5 | 10.9 |
| 231 | 136 | Hse of Fraser | 188½ - | 15 | 3.6 | |
| 135½ | 70½ | Hughes (TJ) | 135 | | 2.8 | 18.1 |
| 682½ | 268 | JJB Sports | 661½ - | 1 | 1.0 | 37.0 |
| 949 | 622½ | Kingfisher | 949 | + 33 | 2.7 | 20.8 |
| 450 | 297½ | Liberty | 350 | | 0.9 | |
| 200 | 27½ | Limelight | 33½ | | | |
| 200½ | 109 | MFI | 122½ | | | 23.8 |
| 683 | 458½ | Marks Spencer | 587 | + 1 | 5.0 | 13.0 |
| 37½ | 22½ | Merchant Retail | 37½ | | 2.8 | 21.4 |
| 315 | 216½ | Moss Bros | 225 | + 1 | 1.2 | 26.7 |
| 810 | 523½ | Next | 747 | + 14½ | 3.1 | 15.1 |
| 42 | 26½ | Owen (G) | 31 | | 2.7 | 22.8 |
| 535 | 433 | OnDume Intl | 440 | | 3.6 | |

## SUPPORT SERVICES

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 635 | 522½ | Secure Tst | 622½ + | 2½ | 4.2 | 13.6 |
| 162½ | 127½ | Singer & Fried | 144½ + | 1 | 4.3 | 11.3 |
| 55½ | 29½ | Towry Law | 51 | - 1 | | |
| 8½ | 1½ | Trio Hldgs | 4½ | ... | | |
| 106½ | 66 | Union | 73½ | | | |
| 54 | 20½ | Versailles Grp | 47½ | | 1.1 | 28.6 |
| 402½ | 310 | Winterhst | 397½ | .. | 4.5 | 15.9 |
| 187½ | 70 | Partners | 72½ | | 0.3 | 13.4 |
| 90½ | 67½ | Partridge Fine | 81½ | | 5.0 | 14.7 |
| 40½ | 26 | QS Hldgs | 29½ | | | |
| 337½ | 256½ | Roadys | 315 | | 3.5 | 15.5 |
| 142½ | 50½ | Save Group | 95½ - | 1 | 9.3 | 7.2 |
| 95½ | 49½ | Sears | 50½ - | ½ | 9.2 | 38.5 |
| 36½ | 26½ | Signet Group | 31½ | | | 0.5 |
| 484½ | 333½ | Smith WH | 431 | - 1½ | 4.5 | |
| 1230 | 910 | Sotheby's | 1060 | | 2.3 | |
| 305½ | 184 | Storehouse | 222 | - 5½ | 3.7 | 11.2 |
| 150 | 74½ | Stylo | 74½ - | 7 | 7.8 | |
| 388½ | 135 | Thorn | 149 | | 11.4 | 6.0 |
| 203½ | 123½ | Tie Rack | 125½ | | 3.3 | 12.7 |
| 340 | 205½ | UNO | 266½ + | 1 | 2.1 | 19.7 |
| 4 | 2½ | Upton & Sonth | 2½ - | ½ | | 13.8 |
| 543½ | 334½ | Vendome | 476 | - 3½ | 2.9 | 17.3 |
| 417½ | 132½ | Wickes | 303½ | | | 5.9 |
| 313½ | 232½ | Wyevale | 306½ - | 16 | 2.7 | 20.3 |
| 570 | 386 | AEA Techt | 543½ | | 2.0 | 25.9 |
| 180½ | 142 | Aggreko | 160½ | - ½ | 3.7 | 22.5 |
| 114 | 72 | Alpha Airpts | 74½ - | ½ | 9.0 | 7.1 |
| 56 | 34½ | Alphameric | 49½ | | | 24.1 |
| 58 | 29½ | Amts Grp | 48½ - | ½ | | |
| 392½ | 254 | Allens Wst | 392½ | | 2.3 | 23.1 |
| 188½ | 112½ | BNB Res | 166 | | 5.7 | 5.7 |
| 527½ | 394½ | BPP | 527½ + | 5 | 3.3 | 20.8 |
| 797½ | 418 | BTG | 732½ + | 40 | 0.2 | |
| 95½ | 60½ | Brooks Service | 80 | | 5.6 | 11.8 |
| 815 | 432 | Business Post | 615 | + 10 | 2.3 | 26.4 |
| 1680 | 840 | CMG | 1680 | + 12½ | 0.4 | 54.5 |
| 367½ | 220½ | CRT Gpt | 336½ - | 1½ | 1.6 | 46.8 |
| 830 | 593 | Card Gp | 817½ | | 1.5 | 8.0 |
| 386½ | 161½ | Capita Group | 385 | + ½ | 0.6 | 71.1 |
| 9 | 6 | Chemex | 7½ | | 3.2 | |
| 350 | 172½ | Corp Services | 227 | + 8½ | 3.1 | 18.5 |
| 58½ | 26½ | Coats Cnstg | 29 | | 6.7 | |
| 358½ | 217½ | DCS Gp | 355 | + 10 | 0.6 | 28.0 |
| 790 | 306 | Danka Bs Syst | 383 | + 8 | 1.2 | 10.6 |
| 325 | 232½ | Davis Service | 324½ - | ½ | 4.1 | 18.7 |
| 910 | 640 | Delphi | 747½ + | 42½ | 1.1 | 20.6 |
| 707½ | 290 | Diagonal | 707½ | | 0.1 | 70.0 |
| 296½ | 170 | Dudley Jenkns | 296½ + | 9 | 2.2 | 21.1 |
| 79½ | 37 | EW Fact | 63½ - | 4 | 3.9 | 11.0 |
| 100 | 49 | El Data Prc | 54 | | 5.2 | 11.7 |
| 1102½ | 470 | FI Group | 1102½ + | 100 | 0.7 | 61.0 |
| 375 | 175 | Harvey Nash | 375 | | 1.3 | |
| 858 | 515 | Hays | 826 | + 10 | 1.4 | 33.2 |
| 313½ | 184½ | Hogg Robinson | 270½ + | ½ | 4.7 | 12.6 |
| 1135 | 530 | JBA Hldgs | 1135 | + 40 | 0.6 | 56.3 |
| 295 | 207 | Johnson Clean | 269 | + 9 | 5.5 | 10.6 |
| 114½ | 52½ | Kalamazoo | 57½ + | 5 | 9.2 | |
| 647 | 521½ | Kenill Syst | 616½ | | 2.0 | 14.8 |
| 37½ | 15½ | Laser-Scan | 18 | | | |
| 381½ | 153½ | Lavendon | 359½ | | 1.2 | 28.5 |
| 1267½ | 671 | Logica | 1267½ + | 77½ | 0.9 | 41.3 |
| 567½ | 280 | Lonsn | 559 | + 26 | 1.7 | |
| 134½ | 77 | Lynx Group | 134½ - | 1½ | 1.9 | 19.7 |
| 62 | 30 | MDIS | 46 | | | |
| 902½ | 415 | MMT Comp | 880 | + 25 | 1.6 | 29.6 |
| 114½ | 85 | MR Group | 110½ | | 4.3 | 15.1 |
| 492½ | 312½ | Macro 4 | 330 | | 9.5 | 9.8 |
| 92½ | 37½ | Manimore Abbey | 55 | + 1 | 1.5 | 16.5 |
| 3665 | 913½ | Micro Focus | 2642½ + | 10 | | 52.8 |
| 178½ | 68½ | Microgen | 76 | | 12.8 | 5.4 |
| 1995 | 1064½ | Misys | 1985 | + 77½ | 0.8 | 36.9 |
| 258½ | 155½ | MITIE Gp | 257½ + | 2½ | 1.0 | 32.5 |
| 53½ | 30½ | Nexo Group | 53½ + | 2 | 3.7 | 12.1 |
| 45½ | 33½ | Orbis | 42½ + | ½ | 3.9 | 11.4 |
| 558½ | 220 | PSD | 546 | - 4 | 1.2 | 25.1 |
| 125½ | 81½ | Paner Intelec | 104½ | | 3.5 | 16.7 |
| 772½ | 427½ | Parity | 770 | + 27½ | 0.7 | 42.9 |
| 390 | 228½ | Pegasus | 247½ | | 3.8 | 10.4 |
| 158 | 96 | Pensa | 147½ | | 1.9 | 7.5 |
| 161 | 108½ | Photo-Me | 154 | | 4.1 | 18.7 |
| 44 | 10½ | Prosdfoot | 37 | | | |
| 253 | 165 | RCO | 170 | | 12.6 | 20.6 |
| 226½ | 129½ | RPS Group | 223½ + | 1 | 2.5 | 19.8 |
| 65 | 27½ | Radius | 32½ - | ½ | 6.3 | 9.0 |
| 352½ | 198 | Real Time | 332½ | | 2.3 | 11.5 |
| 94½ | 59½ | Robust | 93½ | | 2.5 | 30.5 |
| 165½ | 108½ | Reed Executive | 139½ - | ½ | 2.5 | 8.0 |
| 190 | 100 | Reliance Sect | 165 | | 5.2 | 14.6 |
| 303 | 197½ | Rentokil In | 295 | + 9½ | 1.1 | 32.4 |
| 160 | 109½ | Ricardo Group | 160 | | 4.9 | 26.2 |
| 525 | 135½ | Robert Walters | 493½ - | 8 | 0.7 | 31.7 |
| 452½ | 287½ | Rolfe & Nolan | 337½ | | 2.0 | 56.5 |
| 367½ | 204½ | Royalblue | 341 | | 0.6 | 62.3 |
| 952½ | 517½ | Sage Gp | 952½ + | 35 | 0.4 | 40.6 |
| 165 | 61½ | Sanderson | 85 | - ½ | 7.2 | 8.0 |
| 672½ | 338 | Select App | 577 | - 3 | 0.7 | 24.8 |
| 1674 | 1065 | Serna Gp | 1621½ + | 31½ | 0.5 | 49.6 |
| 972½ | 655 | Serco Gp | 972½ + | 31½ | 0.7 | 43.3 |
| 180 | 124½ | Shanks & McEwan | 179½ | | 2.8 | 22.6 |
| 575 | 195 | Shered Intl | 547½ + | 15 | 1.1 | 25.5 |
| 51 | 30 | Simon Grp | 47 | + ½ | | |
| 102½ | 37½ | Sketchley | 53½ | | | |
| 237½ | 125½ | Stiltsgroup | 187 | + 2½ | 3.5 | 14.7 |
| 232½ | 125 | Stal-Plus | 125 | | 11.3 | 11.1 |
| 475 | 52½ | Superscape VR | 114 | + 1 | | |
| 90½ | 48½ | Tores | 85½ - | 2 | 3.1 | 13.9 |
| 2750 | 190½ | Tyco Intl | 2500 | | 0.2 | |
| 106½ | 54½ | WSP Group | 90 | | 3.5 | 14.4 |
| 300 | 224 | Warner Howrd | 224 | - 1 | 6.1 | 10.2 |
| 284½ | 175 | Waste Mgt Intl | 188½ - | 5 | | |
| 349 | 200½ | Waste Recycl | 348½ + | 4 | 0.8 | 38.7 |
| 219½ | 127½ | Whitehead Mann | 218½ | | 2.6 | 18.0 |
| 72½ | 45½ | White Young Grn | 68 | + ½ | 6.3 | 10.7 |
| 394½ | 294½ | Williams | 359 | + 6 | 4.9 | 15.9 |

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 557½ | 388½ | BT | 547 | + 21 | 4.3 | 16.5 |
| 636 | 450 | Cable Wireless | 502 | + 7 | 2.7 | 20.9 |
| 338½ | 208½ | Cable&Wire Coms | 268 | + 1 | | |
| 728½ | 270 | Coll Telecom | 713½ + | 1 | | |
| 323 | 251½ | Energis | 317½ - | 1½ | | |
| 315 | 167½ | Euro Telecom | 276½ + | 1½ | 1.2 | 23.2 |
| 200 | 78½ | General Cable | 78½ - | 1½ | | |
| 280 | 184½ | Orange | 270 | + 2½ | | |
| 338½ | 248½ | Securicor | 338½ + | 7½ | 0.6 | 36.3 |
| 134½ | 61½ | Telewest | 80 | | | |
| 483 | 240 | Vodafone | 483 | + 34 | 1.3 | 39.6 |

## TEXTILES & APPAREL

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 85 | 37 | Allon | 62½ - | 12½ | 6.9 | 4.3 |
| 139½ | 77½ | Alenda W | 138½ | | 5.9 | 12.8 |
| 205½ | 119½ | Allied Text | 166½ | | 6.6 | |
| 233½ | 165½ | Baird (Wm) | 223½ + | 1½ | 5.4 | 17.5 |
| 120½ | 80½ | Br Mohair | 92½ | | 7.4 | 35.2 |
| 180 | 64½ | Claremont Gp | 76½ | | 11.8 | |
| 142½ | 90 | Coats Viyella | 91½ | | 11.0 | 13.3 |
| 374 | 220 | Courtauld Text | 360 | + 8½ | 5.3 | 32.7 |
| 78 | 57 | Dewson | 64½ | | 6.7 | 11.8 |
| 257½ | 166 | Dewhirst (IJ) | 239½ | | 2.4 | 15.6 |
| 31½ | 21½ | Dwike Heel | 21½ | | 9.3 | 8.1 |
| 49 | 18 | Drummond | 33 | + 1 | 10.9 | 6.1 |
| 35 | 24 | Faupel | 33 | | 8.3 | 6.7 |
| 123 | 74 | FII | 116½ | | 2.1 | 25.5 |
| 11½ | 7½ | Foster (John) | 9½ | | | |
| 70½ | 36½ | French | 42½ | | 11.3 | 9.7 |
| 125 | 65 | Haggas | 78½ | | 7.2 | 11.3 |
| 13½ | 5½ | Hartstone | 9½ | | 6.5 | 24.6 |
| 359½ | 254½ | Hicking Pntcst | 256½ | | 3.8 | 14.4 |
| 7½ | 1½ | Hollas | 2½ | | | |
| 32½ | 10½ | Honeysuckle | 14½ | | | |
| 102 | 63 | Horace Small | 64½ - | 7 | | 6.9 |
| 53½ | 16½ | Jacques Vert# | 22½ | | | |
| 67½ | 37½ | Jerome (S) | 39 | | 10.0 | 9.5 |
| 380 | 293 | Jones Stroud | 317½ + | 1 | 4.5 | 13.2 |
| 205 | 110 | Lambert | 201 | | 5.0 | 13.4 |
| 195 | 116 | Lamont | 150 | + 8 | 10.7 | 12.4 |
| 173 | 105 | Leedst | 115 | | 7.6 | 7.2 |
| 38½ | 10½ | Lesle Wise Gp | 10½ - | ½ | 26.8 | 8.0 |
| 77 | 47 | Lyles (S) | 70½ | | 4.0 | 11.7 |
| 6½ | 3½ | PEX | 4½ | .. | | 7.8 |
| 307½ | 120 | Parkland | 120 | | 6.9 | 5.2 |
| 118 | 88 | Pentland | 112½ | | 4.0 | 16.9 |
| 103 | 52 | Pittards | 60 | + 4 | 7.3 | 4.1 |
| 47½ | 35 | Readicut | 38½ | .. | 8.4 | 11.3 |
| 45½ | 19½ | Richards | 30½ | | 8.5 | |
| 40½ | 20½ | SEET | 22 | | | |
| 48½ | 26½ | Sherwood Gp | 35½ + | ½ | 12.7 | 35.2 |
| 144½ | 97½ | Shiloh | 105½ | | 4.7 | 7.4 |
| 72½ | 50½ | Sirdar | 53 | | 12.8 | 7.7 |
| 43½ | 31½ | Strlung Grp | 38 | | 7.7 | 8.9 |
| 18½ | 8½ | UK Safety | 9½ | | | 11.6 |
| 193 | 134 | Usher (Frank) | 135½ | | 10.1 | 6.9 |
| 100½ | 60 | Wensum | 64½ | | 9.7 | 5.6 |
| 205 | 97 | Yorklyde | 103 | | 9.7 | 12.2 |

## TRANSPORT

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 252 | 169½ | Air London | 212½ | | 3.8 | 13.0 |
| 462½ | 219 | All Nippon Air | 242½ + | 19½ | 0.6 | |
| 444 | 329½ | Arriva | 369 | | 4.3 | 10.7 |
| 319½ | 247 | Assoc Br Ports | 284 | - 2 | 3.6 | 14.5 |
| 285½ | 262 | Autologic | 285½ | | 3.3 | 19.5 |
| 179 | 124 | Avis Europe | 174 | + 2 | 2.4 | 17.9 |
| 614 | 459 | BAA | 473 | + 11 | 3.4 | 14.5 |
| 763½ | 500 | Br Airways | 542 | - 12 | 3.6 | 20.7 |
| 112½ | 87½ | Clarkson (H) | 107½ | | 4.7 | 10.0 |
| 162½ | 111½ | Clydeport Ops | 141 | | 4.5 | 8.2 |
| 330½ | 197½ | Dart | 325 | | 1.6 | 15.9 |
| 88 | 54½ | Eurotunnel Uts | 59 | | | |
| 256 | 184½ | FirstGroup | 238½ | | 3.1 | 17.0 |
| 157 | 118½ | Fisher (James) | 132½ | | 2.8 | 9.5 |
| 665 | 520 | Forth Ports | 592½ - | 2½ | 2.8 | 15.0 |
| 553 | 424 | Go-Ahead | 537½ - | 1½ | 1.9 | 16.9 |
| 525 | 388½ | Goode Durrant | 525 | | 2.5 | 15.4 |
| 379 | 109½ | Helpitern Grp | 365 | - 6½ | 0.3 | 44.9 |
| 800 | 405 | Irish Cont | 800 | | 0.7 | |
| 104 | 66½ | Jacobs | 75 | | 3.3 | 33.4 |
| 98½ | 64½ | Lon O'Seas Frts | 86½ - | 3 | | |
| 510 | 388 | Mersey Docks | 505 | | 3.3 | 17.6 |
| 186½ | 121½ | NFC | 140 | - 2½ | 5.2 | 14.3 |
| 701½ | 434 | Natl Express | 695½ + | 4 | 2.2 | 15.5 |
| 631½ | 446½ | Ocean Group | 600½ | | 3.2 | 19.8 |
| 119½ | 82½ | Ocean Wilson | 100 | - 2½ | 4.8 | 17.9 |
| 751 | 123½ | P & O Dfd | 700 | | 5.4 | 19.0 |
| 129 | 101 | P & O 5.5% | 113½ | | 6.1 | |
| 1121 | 540 | Railtrack | 892 | + 35 | 3.2 | 16.9 |
| 135½ | 89½ | Salvesen (C) | 99 | - ½ | 7.3 | 14.2 |
| 53½ | 32 | Scacon | 37 | | 4.2 | 24.7 |
| 505 | 180 | Serviceair | 230 | + 6½ | 2.8 | 21.0 |
| 867 | 589½ | Stagecoach | 804 | - 15 | 1.8 | 18.3 |
| 652½ | 542½ | Tibbet & Britten | 585½ + | 4 | 3.6 | 15.7 |
| 209½ | 152½ | TDG | 208 | - ½ | 5.7 | 14.8 |
| 96½ | 65½ | Uigland | 78½ | | 3.5 | 10.6 |
| 103½ | 49 | Utd Carriers | 50 | + ½ | 8.8 | 7.8 |

## WATER

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 930 | 577½ | Anglian | 822 | + 12 | 4.9 | 12.6 |
| 293½ | 203 | East Surrey | 293½ + | 3 | 4.8 | 11.9 |
| 1019½ | 740 | Hyder | 999½ + | 11 | 5.7 | 8.4 |
| 148½ | 101½ | Hyder Cw Prf | 118 | - ½ | 8.3 | |
| 680 | 532½ | Mid Kent Hdgs | 670 | | 5.8 | 10.0 |
| 1079 | 663 | Severn Trent | 1072 | + 22 | 4.4 | 11.8 |
| 3290 | 2755 | South Staffs | 3280 | + 5 | 3.6 | 13.5 |
| 941½ | 595½ | South West | 941½ + | 11½ | 5.1 | 11.9 |
| 970 | 593½ | Thames | 926 | + 18 | 4.8 | 10.4 |
| 890 | 605½ | Utd Utilities | 880 | + 10 | 5.6 | 13.9 |
| 546½ | 344½ | Wessex | 538½ + | 6½ | 4.4 | 10.3 |
| 534 | 325 | Yorkshire | 531½ + | 15 | 4.6 | 10.4 |

## ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

| 1997/98 High | Low | Company | Price (p) | +/- | Yld % | P/E |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 370 | 84½ | Abacus Recruit | 315 | - 30 | 0.6 | 36.4 |
| 217 | 170 | Cale Inesv | 195 | + 1 | 1.9 | 14.8 |
| 262½ | 170 | Dawson Hdgs | 172½ | | 3.5 | |
| 51½ | 26½ | Freepages | 32 | | | |
| 98½ | 58 | Megalomedia | 64 | - 1 | 0.4 | 30.4 |
| 65 | 22½ | Memory Corp | 26½ | | | |
| 500 | 280 | Prism Rail | 361½ - | 5 | 1.7 | |
| 1765 | 732½ | Ramco Egy | 772½ | | 0.5 | |
| 783 | 619½ | Southern News | 742½ | | 3.4 | 19.7 |
| 92½ | 65½ | Southern Vectis | 92½ | | 2.8 | 19.2 |
| 60½ | 16½ | Trocadero | 19 | .. | ... | |

Source: FT Information

# Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited; .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.


# THE PEP DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

SAVE up to 5% on a PEP

This 27 page A4 guide is ESSENTIAL reading for all PEP investors. It lists performance & charges as well as the discounts we can offer on hundreds of Unit Trust PEPs. If you want to obtain up to £300 discount/cashback on a full PEP. Send for details TODAY.

CHECK YOUR PEPS ARE PERFORMING
CHECK THEIR CHARGES ARE COMPETITIVE
NEW AUTUMN EDITION
DISCOUNTS ON TRANSFERS
SAVE UP TO £300!

Normally £3, currently available FREE of charge
FOR A FREE COPY PLEASE CALL FREE ON
0800 850 661

Issued by
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN ASSET MANAGEMENT LTD
Kendal House, 4 Brighton Mews, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2NX
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority


## BRITISH FUNDS

| 1997/98 High | Low | Stock | Price £ | +/- | Int yld % | Gr red yld |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **SHORTS (under 5 years)** | | | | | | |
| 116¼ | 113¾ | Treas 4¾% 1998 | 115 | - ¼ | 2.99 | 7.07 |
| 102¼ | 100 | Exch 9½% 1998 | 100 | | 9.75 | |
| 101¼ | 100 | Treas 7¼% 1998 | 100 | | 7.25 | 7.25 |
| 110¼ | 102¾ | Treas 14% 1998-01 | 102¾ | - ¼ | 13.69 | 7.14 |
| 114¼ | 105¼ | Treas 15½% 1998 | 105¼ | - ¼ | 14.69 | 7.15 |
| 109¼ | 103 | Exch 12% 1998 | 103¼ | - ¼ | 11.55 | 7.10 |
| 105¼ | 102½ | Treas 9½% 1999 | 102½ | - ¼ | 9.28 | 7.01 |
| 111¼ | 105 | Exch 12¼% 1999 | 105¼ | - ¼ | 11.57 | 7.03 |
| 109¼ | 104½ | Treas 10½% 1999 | 104½ | - ¼ | 10.04 | 6.92 |
| 99¼ | 96¾ | Treas 6% 1999 | 98¾ | - ¼ | 6.07 | 6.77 |
| 109¼ | 105¼ | Conv 10¼% 1999 | 105¼ | - ¼ | 9.68 | 6.79 |
| 106½ | 103¾ | Conv 9% 2000 | 104¾ | - ¼ | 9.62 | 6.72 |
| 104¾ | 102 | Treas 8% 2000 | 102¼ | - ¼ | 7.72 | 6.80 |
| 104¼ | 102¾ | Treas 8½% 2000 | 102¾ | - ¼ | 8.23 | 6.70 |
| 119¼ | 113¾ | Treas 13% 2000 | 114¼ | - ¼ | 11.39 | 6.79 |
| 112¼ | 107¾ | Treas 10% 2001 | 109¼ | - ¼ | 9.16 | 6.66 |
| 102¼ | 98¾ | Treas 7% 2001 | 101¼ | - ¼ | 6.68 | 6.50 |
| **MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)** | | | | | | |
| 103¾ | 97¾ | Treas 7% 2002 | 105¾ | - ¼ | 6.64 | 6.38 |
| 112¼ | 109¼ | Treas 9¾% 2002 | 112¾ | - ¼ | 9.63 | 6.43 |
| 108¼ | 102¼ | Treas 7% 2003 | 108¼ | - ¼ | 7.47 | 6.32 |
| 118¼ | 111¼ | Treas 10% 2003 | 117¼ | - ¼ | 8.54 | 6.35 |
| 116¾ | 112¾ | Treas 11½% 2001-04 | 113¼ | - ¼ | 10.17 | 6.67 |
| 91¾ | 92¾ | Fund 3½% 1999-04 | 91¼ | - ¼ | 3.84 | 5.13 |
| 118¼ | 109¼ | Conv 9½% 2004 | 117¼ | - ¼ | 8.07 | 6.25 |
| 103¾ | 94¼ | Treas 6¾% 2004 | 103 | - ¼ | 6.56 | 6.19 |
| 115¼ | 104¼ | Treas 9½% 2005 | 114¼ | - ¼ | 7.43 | 6.12 |
| 120¾ | 110¾ | Conv 9½% 2005 | 119¼ | - ¼ | 8.00 | 6.23 |
| 130¼ | 124¾ | Treas 12½% 2003-05 | 129¼ | - ¼ | 9.55 | 6.36 |
| 110¼ | 99¾ | Treas 7¾% 2006 | 110¼ | - ¼ | 6.86 | 6.12 |
| 111¼ | 99¾ | Treas 7¾% 2006 | 111¼ | - ¼ | 7.02 | 8.16 |
| 108¼ | 100¼ | Treas 8% 2002-06 | 108¼ | - ¼ | 7.54 | 6.49 |
| 123¼ | 115¾ | Treas 11¾% 2003-07 | 122¼ | - ¼ | 9.59 | 6.42 |
| 117¼ | 105¼ | Treas 8½% 2007 | 116¼ | - ¼ | 7.29 | 6.15 |
| 109¼ | 98¼ | Treas 7¼% 2007 | 109¾ | - ¼ | 6.68 | 6.07 |
| 124¼ | 108¼ | Treas 9% 2008 | 123¾ | - ¼ | 7.30 | 6.02 |
| 116¾ | 101 | Treas 8% 2009 | 115¼ | - ¼ | 6.90 | 6.08 |
| 102¾ | 86½ | Treas 6¼% 2010 | 101¾ | - ¼ | 6.16 | 6.11 |
| 127¼ | 109¼ | Conv 9% 2011 | 126¾ | - ¼ | 7.13 | 6.12 |
| 129¼ | 109¼ | Treas 9% 2012 | 127¼ | - ¼ | 7.07 | 6.13 |
| 96½ | 80¾ | Treas 5½% 2008-12 | 95¼ | - ¼ | 5.79 | 6.00 |
| 115¼ | 98¾ | Treas 7¾% 2012-15 | 114¼ | - ¼ | 6.76 | 6.10 |
| **LONGS (over 15 years)** | | | | | | |
| 119¾ | 100¾ | Treas 8% 2013 | 118¾ | - ¼ | 6.75 | 6.14 |
| 122¼ | 101¼ | Treas 8% 2015 | 120¾ | - ¼ | 6.62 | 6.06 |
| 131¼ | 103¼ | Treas 8¾% 2017 | 130¼ | - ¼ | 6.73 | 6.09 |
| 125¼ | 101¼ | Tr 8% 2021 | 124¼ | - ¼ | 6.43 | 6.04 |
| **UNDATED** | | | | | | |
| 58¾ | 43¾ | War Ln 3½% | 57¾ | - ¼ | 6.12 | |
| 40¾ | 30¾ | Treas 2½% | 39¾ | - ¼ | 6.28 | |
| 64¾ | 49¾ | Consols 4% | 62½ | - ¼ | 6.37 | |
| **INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:** | | | | | 5% | 3% |
| 195¼ | 184¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2001 | 195¼ | - ¼ | 2.98 | 3.31 |
| 193¼ | 180¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2003 | 192¾ | - ¼ | 2.98 | 3.20 |
| 124¾ | 117¾ | Treas IL 4¾% 2004 | 124¾ | - ¼ | 2.95 | 3.15 |
| 207¾ | 190 | Treas IL 2% 2006 | 207¾ | - ¼ | 2.99 | 3.14 |
| 189¾ | 170¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2009 | 188¾ | - ¼ | 2.99 | 3.10 |
| 198¾ | 178¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2011 | 196¾ | - ¼ | 2.99 | 3.09 |
| 164¼ | 148¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2013 | 163¼ | - ¼ | 2.99 | 3.08 |
| 178¾ | 157¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2016 | 176¾ | - ¼ | 2.99 | 3.08 |
| 173¾ | 147¼ | Treas IL 2½% 2020 | 171¼ | - ¼ | 3.01 | 3.08 |
| 145¼ | 122¾ | Treas IL 2½% 2024 | 144¾ | - ¼ | 3.01 | 3.07 |
| 143¼ | 119¾ | Treas IL 4⅛% 2030 | 141¾ | - ¼ | 2.99 | 3.05 |

orporate
andlords
to spend
400m on
K homes

BZW jobs disa
wake of CSFB

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل





**TASTY 30**
Lahoud always has something on the boil

# BUSINESS

WEEKEND MONEY
SECTION2 PAGES 51-64

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

SATURDAY JANUARY 17 1998

# Corporate landlords to spend £400m on UK homes

BY CARL MORTISHED

CORPORATE investors from the UK and overseas are expected to spend as much as £400 million on the residential sector this year. The move could create the conditions for a shift from traditional British owner-occupancy into a continental-style lettings market.

At least six corporate investors are targeting large-scale investment in the private rented sector this year. According to FPD Savills, the surveyor, the new money — some £400 million — does not include a further £100 million in indirect investment through property funds and the expected £2 billion of annual turnover from owner occupiers.

The new investors include Amresco, the American property investor, and ING, the Dutch insurer that recently acquired Barings bank and owns a huge portfolio of residential real estate in The Netherlands.

In addition, other real estate investors are targeting owner-occupiers with life tenancies, offering householders the option of selling their property for half of its value in exchange for the right to live in it free for the rest of their life. FPD Savills is soon expected to launch a housing investment trust and life tenancies are being considered as an investment.

Traditionally regarded in this country as shabby and over-regulated, rented housing has been shunned by most investors and the housing market is dominated by owner-occupiers, local authorities and a small market in lettings to foreign companies.

A small number of companies, such as Mountview and Bradford Property Trust have focused on the rapidly declining market in regulated tenancies, buying up old, tenanted housing with a view to selling them at a profit when they become vacant — which may mean waiting until the tenant dies.

Legislative change in 1988 brought in the assured shorthold tenancy which allows an investor to secure vacant possession at the end of an agreed period.

The security offered to investors and recovery in the housing has brought a flurry of activity. ING Real Estate has invested £10 million over the last year in Edinburgh, Oxford and Windsor, and Peter Davies, director of asset management, said that he would like to have invested three times as much.

The fund is targeting high-quality flats and houses for middle income households and he is shunning the corporate market. The investment is based on extensive demographic research. "There is a growth in certain households in the age group of 20-40. What we are not doing is going down to Docklands, looking at all the offices and saying, look at the opportunity for company lets."

A tight housing market is forcing ING into developing its own apartment block and Amresco, the US fund, is hoping to spend between £40 million and £50 million this year in the residential market.

Charles Clark, managing director of the UK arm of the $1.25 billion US group, reckons the market is all about diversifying risk. The UK business spent up to £20 million over 18 months, acquiring some 250 units. "It is a good spread of risk. You are not getting one covenant as you do in commercial property and if it becomes vacant you can sell it. Vacant housing is not necessarily a bad thing, unlike vacant offices."



Mike Smith, Argos chief executive, intends to cut costs by making redundancies through a £7 million shake-up, while launching a home-shopping service

# Argos plans shake-up after Christmas fall

BY FRASER NELSON

ARGOS brought to an end a week of dismal news in the retail sector by admitting that it suffered the sharpest sales slowdown in its 24-year history over Christmas.

Argos shares plunged 12 per cent yesterday after the catalogue retailer revealed a 4.5 per cent fall in like-for-like sales in the period from October to December. The company also issued a profit warning after Christmas 1996.

In an attempt to cut costs the company, whose chief executive is Mike Smith, is making 230 workers redundant through a £7 million internal shake-up. At the same time, it will start work on a national delivery network to provide a home-shopping service. The shake-up takes place just four weeks after the company told analysts it considered home shopping too risky.

Bob Stewart, finance director, said the company had been suffering from a marketwide downturn in its three core areas of toys, jewellery and small electrical goods. He said: "In the 16 years I've been with the company, I have never known all three markets to be going through a downturn at the same time, and this is what has been affecting sales. Normally, we have one down every year, but this time it is just exceptional."

He said the company had done better than Dixons, which returned disappointing results on Wednesday, but conceded that Woolworths may have done better.

On an absolute basis, its sales gained 9.5 per cent to £1.82 billion last year — although like-for-like growth was 3.5 per cent for the the year. Shares fell 63p to a two-year low of 442p as analysts cut forecasts to £137 million from £150 million.

Tempus, page 31

# Smaller investors flee Laura Ashley

BY FRASER NELSON

LAURA ASHLEY's share price continued its freefall yesterday as the fashion retailer's vast army of private investors started to sell on fears that the company may never recover from its financial turmoil.

A barrage of small selling, in bundles of about £200, forced the shares down a further 6p, or 23 per cent, to 20p.

The retailer is now worth £56 million, against the £400 million that it was capitalised at during last year's peak. In its heyday the company was worth more than £500 million.

City share dealers said there was hardly any support for the shares above 21p as soon as the smaller orders got through. One said: "The institutions did all their bulk buying yesterday when the results came out. Today, it's just all the Sids [private shareholders] reading the papers and getting themselves into a panic."

The company is now the worst performing share of the past 12 months.

Worst hit have been Sir Bernard Ashley, widower of Laura Ashley and owner of 35 per cent, and Jusco, a Japanese retailer that bought 15 per cent of the company as part of a 1990 restructuring deal. Kleinwort Benson, its house broker, owns 8 per cent.

# DTI faces paying Levitt's legal costs

BY JON ASHWORTH

THE Department of Trade and Industry was left facing steep legal costs yesterday, as the fight to extradite Roger Levitt ended at the High Court.

Mr Levitt, who lives in New York, is considering suing the DTI for damages over his arrest in December. The DTI was seeking to bring him back to answer allegations that he broke a directors' ban. It emerged that the grounds on which he was arrested — allegedly lying to inspectors — were not covered by the UK-US extradition treaty.

The DTI is set to pick up a large proportion of Mr Levitt's legal costs, estimated at about £70,000. Alun Jones, QC, for Mr Levitt, asked the High Court for a formal declaration that the extradition request was "irrational". Lord Justice Simon Brown, sitting with Mr Justice Mance, said the case had become "substantially academic" as it had been admitted that the request, made after the DTI took wrong legal advice, was "a most regrettable mistake which should not have been made".

The judge said Mr Levitt was arrested after an American lawyer "innocently misled" a New York court into thinking the false information charge was an extradition crime. He said no useful purpose would be served by the court making a formal declaration. Mr Levitt's lawyer, Steven Barker of Barker Gillette, said the threat of extradition had been removed.

Commentary, page 29

## BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| FTSE 100 | 5263.1 | (+97.3) |
| Yield | 3.09% | |
| FTSE All share | 2461.58 | (+34.78) |
| Nikkei | 15046.45 | (+924.47) |
| New York: | | |
| Dow Jones | 7778.71 | (+86.94)* |
| S&P Composite | 963.34 | (+12.61)* |

US RATE

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Federal Funds | 5½%* | (5⅝%) |
| Long Bond | 104²⁰⁄₃₂* | (105⁴⁄₃₂) |
| Yield | 5.79%* | (5.75%) |

LONDON MONEY

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3-mth Interbank | 7⅛% | (7⅛) |
| Lffe long gilt future (Mar) | 123¹⁄₁₆ | (123⁷⁄₃₂) |

STERLING

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| New York: | | |
| $ | 1.6333* | (1.6310) |
| London: | | |
| $ | 1.6371 | (1.6295) |
| DM | 2.9911 | (2.9839) |
| FFr | 10.0180 | (9.9941) |
| SFr | 2.4449 | (2.4299) |
| Yen | 211.15 | (212.62) |
| £ Index | 105.1 | (104.9) |

DOLLAR

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| London: | | |
| DM | 1.8310* | (1.8310) |
| FFr | 6.1330* | (6.1325) |
| SFr | 1.4968* | (1.4978) |
| Yen | 128.97* | (129.93) |
| $ Index | 109.5 | (110.1) |

Tokyo close Yen 128.77

NORTH SEA OIL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brent 15-day (Apr) | $15.50 | (n/a) |

GOLD

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| London close | $289.85 | ($283.75) |

* denotes midday trading price

# FTSE ends week on high note

THE FTSE 100 share index raced almost 100 points higher yesterday to come within striking distance of an all-time high at the end of a week when many analysts had expected a sharp fall in the wake of the failure of Peregrine Investments, the Honk Kong investment bank (Michael Clarke writes).

The FTSE 100 was 111 points up before eventually closing 97.3 better at 5,263.1, with almost one billion shares traded. Yesterday's gain stretched the rise on the week to 124.6. Domestic issues, including telecoms, banks and drug companies, led the way.

In Tokyo the Nikkei 225 rose 924 points and in Hong Kong the Hang Seng advanced 321 points. Wall Street followed suit, with the Dow Jones industrial average up 86.94 to 7,778.71 at midday.

Market report page 31

# BZW jobs disappear in wake of CSFB takeover

BY MARTIN WALLER

ALMOST 200 City jobs went or were put at risk yesterday as CSFB, the Swiss bank taking over most of Barclays de Zoete Wedd, swung the axe on those parts of the business that overlap its London activities.

The job cuts fell within BZW's investment banking division, which CSFB has owned since the start of the year, with more than 30 staff at the Canary Wharf offices asked to leave. In addition, a further 150 within equities research and trading at the same location, which the bank will not formally own for another three months, are understood to be under threat. They are staff who were invited into meetings with CSFB management yesterday and told they were in a "process of consultation".

A bank spokeswoman said: "We're reviewing their positions where there is overlap. We're looking to see if there are other opportunities for them elsewhere in the firm — otherwise they will be made redundant." In all, about 960 people work for BZW at Canary Wharf, about half in equities.

There were sombre scenes at Canary Wharf as the redundancies and "consultation" meetings took place. One observer said: "It's the usual thing — there are people putting their possessions in buckets." But CSFB denied the delayed job losses were not designed to save on eventual redundancy payments.

☐ The London arm of Peregrine Investments, the Hong Kong investment bank which collapsed on Monday, said yesterday that it was solvent and would work with Price Waterhouse, the provisional liquidator of the bank, to find a buyer. The operation employs 105 people in London.

Earlier, Price Waterhouse announced that 306 of the Peregrine's 600 staff in Hong Kong had been dismissed.

# Engine Thomas is Penguin bound

BY RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

PENGUIN, publishers of children's favourites such as *Jemima Puddleduck* and the *Ladybird* titles, is close to taking over *Thomas the Tank Engine* and all his works in a £30 million deal.

Reed Elsevier, the international information and publishing group, is close to finalising a deal for the sale of its children's books division to Penguin, which is part of Pearson.

The main asset in the Reed Children's Books portfolio are all the "master licences" for *Thomas the Tank Engine*, including books, television programmes and merchandising. There are more than 2,000 items on the market carrying *Thomas the Tank Engine* branding.

The Britt Allcroft Company sub-leases the rights to produce television programmes, videos and associated merchandise on a long-term agreement from Reed.

If for any reason the Reed-Penguin deal does not go ahead it is believed that Egmont International, the Danish-owned charitable trust, probably in association with Britt Allcroft, is still interested. Egmont is believed to have offered a very similar price for Reed Children's Books.

## AWEEK IN THE CITY

The week began with a corporate failure in Hong Kong, and settled into a familiar round of boardroom blood-letting. Terry Venables, the former England football coach, was banned as a director for seven years, while the Asian crisis deepened, sending shares on a rickshaw ride.

Peregrine Investments, Hong Kong's largest independent securities house, went into liquidation on Monday, triggering a 9 per cent fall in the Hang Seng index. Soothing words from the International Monetary Fund helped the Hang Seng to recoup most of its losses, but things remain volatile. Hong Kong delayed the opening of its showcase HK$50 billion (£4 billion) airport by three months, amid signs of a deepening price war among hard-hit Asian airlines.

Fresh ripples from Asia lapped western shores, leaving the FTSE 100 index down 150 points at one stage on Monday. It later rallied to end the day nearly 70 points down. British exporters fear competition from increasingly cheap Asian goods.

Shares in Dixons and Boots suffered some of their steepest one-day falls in years, as disappointing Christmas sales figures began to circulate. Boots came up with a novel excuse: it blamed the mild weather for a fall in demand for cold remedies. Dixons pinned the blame on poor computer sales. Laura Ashley said it was to stop making clothes and closing its five factories in Wales and The Netherlands, putting 700 jobs at risk. In the first profit warning of 1998, the company said it was heading for a £26 million loss, much worse than expected. Retailers are struggling to shift stock piled up by Ann Iverson, the former chief executive.

The battle for Liberty came to a head when the four remaining "old guard" directors resigned, taking the company's advisers with them. The move was a triumph, of sorts, for Brian Myerson, the South African investor, who succeeded in December in forcing the removal of Denis Cassidy as chairman. Philip Bowman, a former finance director of Bass, was installed in his place.

ICI lured Brendan O'Neill from the top spot at Guinness to be its chief operating officer, making him favourite to succeed Charles Miller Smith as chief executive next year. Andrew Longhurst, the highly regarded chairman of Cheltenham & Gloucester, became the victim of a boardroom reshuffle at Lloyds TSB, which bought C&G in 1995. He leaves in April.

Terry Venables agreed to a seven-year directors' ban after admitting failings in his conduct at Tottenham Hotspur and Scribes West. His lawyer said the ban would not interfere with his activities. Tim Smith, the chartered accountant MP who resigned as a minister over "cash for questions", was found guilty of misconduct by the English accountancy institute. He was reprimanded and fined £1,000.

Microsoft's offices in Japan were raided by officials investigating alleged anti-trust violations. The US Justice Department is separately considering whether Microsoft has bundled products to gain illegal dominance in the Internet market. A Finance Ministry official was held hostage for six hours at the Tokyo stock exchange, but later released unharmed.

JON ASHWORTH

FLASH TRIGGER SPRAYS

(FLASH SPRAY WITH BLEACH, BATHROOM SPRAY AND MILDEW SPRAY)

Flash have received reports regarding problems with the Trigger Spray mechanism on a limited quantity of Flash Trigger Sprays.

The potentially faulty bottles have the numbers "437" and "447" as the first 3 digits of the number/letter combination below the backlabel of the spray bottle.

If you have purchased Flash Spray bottles with these codes and are having problems with the trigger mechanism, please phone the following telephone number:

FREEPHONE
0800 591 595

# Pay chief defends compensation for Granada directors

BY DOMINIC WALSH

IAN MARTIN, chairman of Granada Group's remuneration committee, has written to the Association of British Insurers defending the decision to compensate directors for reducing their notice periods.

In a letter to the ABI, which has been passed to ABI members, Mr Martin says the reduction of the five executive directors' employment contracts from three years to two represents "a significant loss of contractual value to the directors concerned which, if unsympathetically handled, might well be seen as a censure and become a demotivating factor".

The letter adds: "In the light of the very successful performance of Granada, we thought it would have been a mistake to risk demotivating the executive directors at this time. We are confident that the measures taken are in the long-term interest of shareholders."

Mr Martin's comments are being seen by Granada observers as an attempt to defuse investor unrest before the media and hotel group's annual meeting on February 4. The £375,000 compensation bill, which was revealed in the annual report, has prompted accusations of greed from some institutions, with some calling for the money to be given to charity.

Pirc, the corporate governance consultancy, will shortly publish a report on Granada which gives the company a clean bill of health from the point of view of the Cadbury Code but highlights certain concerns over contract lengths in relation to the Greenbury Report.

It says Granada's two-year rolling contracts should be reduced to a year and it advises shareholders to oppose the re-election of John Ashworth, a non-executive director and a member of the remuneration committee, as an expression of these concerns. For the same reason, it recommends that shareholders abstain from re-electing Charles Allen, chief executive, and Stephanie Monk, human resources director.

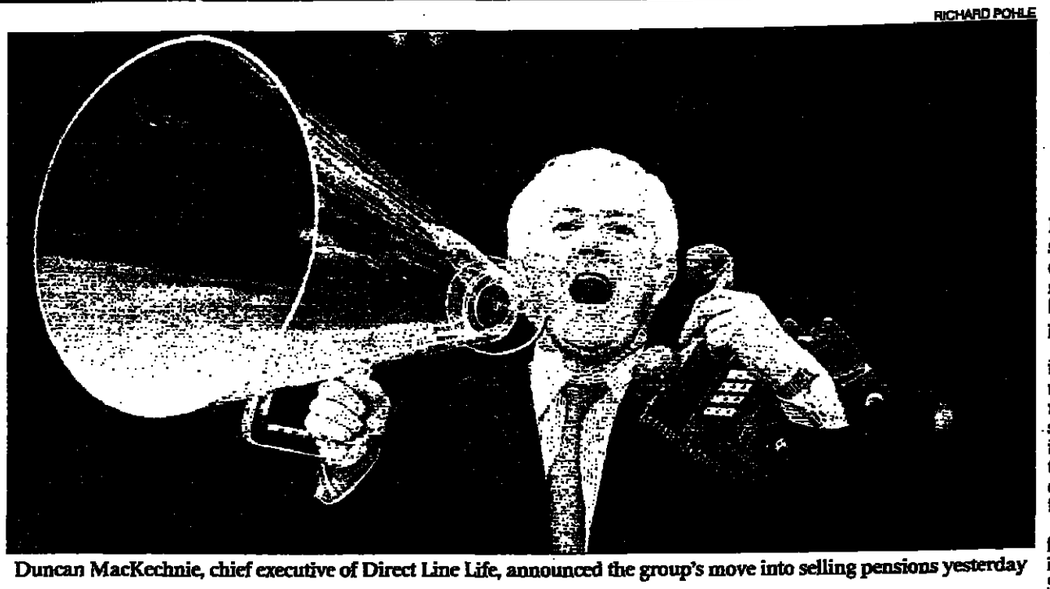
Granada says only a small number of complaints have been received and that these have been dealt with personally by Mr Martin.

A research document on the company published this week by SBC Warburg Dillon Read puts a value of almost £500 million on Granada management based on an analysis of earnings growth compared with its peers.

The report summarises the management style as "focused, profit-centred, disciplined, devolved, relentless and innovative".

Commentary, page 29

RICHARD POHLE



Duncan MacKechnie, chief executive of Direct Line Life, announced the group's move into selling pensions yesterday

# Direct Line to offer pensions

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

DIRECT LINE, the financial services group that pioneered direct telephone insurance more than a decade ago, is branching out into personal pensions.

The company, which is hoping to exploit the Government's plans for welfare reform, the creation of the stakeholder pension and growing public dissatisfaction with traditional life insurers, will be offering pensions by phone from Wednesday.

It joins a growing band of financial services providers, including Virgin, Marks & Spencer and Liberty Life, which is attempting to change the market and simplify pension products available to people who do not belong to an occupational scheme. The pension schemes will be offered through Direct Line's joint venture with Scottish Widows, the life and pensions provider.

Unlike most policyholders with life offices, Direct Line customers will be able to telephone instructions to alter contributions without penalty and be able to check their current fund value.

Pensions move, page 64

# Dai-Ichi executives plead guilty

FROM A CORRESPONDENT IN TOKYO

A FORMER chairman of Dai-Ichi Kangyo Bank and three other former bank executives pleaded guilty yesterday to charges relating to a scandal involving illicit payments to corporate racketeers.

Dai-Ichi was the first of several big Japanese companies outside the brokerage industry to be targeted in an investigation previously limited to the nation's top securities firms.

Prosecutors allege large sums of hush money were funnelled to a leading *sokaiya* racketeer who had threatened to disrupt these companies' normally tranquil annual shareholders' meetings.

Tadashi Okuda, 65, the bank's ex-chairman, yesterday admitted in Tokyo District Court to approving payments of more than 11 billion yen (£5 million) via an affiliate company to *sokaiya* Ryuichi Koike, 54, between July 1994 and September 1996. Koike has already pleaded guilty to charges of accepting the payments in violation of Japan's Commercial Code.

On Monday the first four of 11 former senior officials of Dai-Ichi pleaded guilty to similar charges of paying off the racketeer. The other defendants to plead guilty yesterday were Takeo Fukushima, a former managing director, and Michiyoshi Kusajima and Takushi Manabe, two general affairs department deputy chiefs.

Mr Okuda, the former chairman, was arrested in July 1997 after having resigned the previous month.


THE SUNDAY TIMES

STYLE



GET KNOTTED
Plaits are swinging back onto the catwalk

MAGAZINE



ARE YOU ADDICTED?
Find out with our new series on powerful compulsions

CULTURE



GENIUS OR BUTCHER?
Francis Bacon — his life and work dissected

BRAINPOWER



IT MAKES SENSE

Use your mind to change your life, as part two of BrainPower takes you on a guided tour of your senses

Tomorrow in The Sunday Times

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS


BUSINESS ROUNDUP

## Christie's jobs to go in cost-cutting drive

CHRISTIE'S INTERNATIONAL, the fine art auctioneer, is cutting 3 per cent of its workforce — about 50 jobs — in a renewed drive to control costs and boost profits. The firm, which is the subject of a proposed £500 million bid led by SBC Warburg Dillon Read, said the cuts, to be phased in, would affect administrative staff in London and New York. Christie's employs 1,900 staff worldwide.

A memo from management said: "Over the past months, Christie's International has been reviewing its operations to ensure further efficiencies in a number of areas, including cost control, organisational structure and profitability. This review is part of the development of long-term plans for Christie's future strategic direction and the enhancement of its operation methods internationally." Christie's is soon to release its sales figures for 1997. It has been suggested that the cuts could be linked to the financial turmoil in Asia, which may lead to a decline in demand for works of art.

## Insurance by Unifi

TRADE unions took another step into the commercial world yesterday with the formation of an insurance company by Unifi, the banking union. Unifi, which represents finance workers in Barclays, has created Uniservice, which will provide insurance and other services to its 44,000 members. Unifi has offered insurance to members since the 1960s but the creation of a separate company will aim to expand its activities. The move follows the creation by the TUC of Union Energy, which will sell gas and electricity to union members.

## Bloodstock stays in red

THE British Bloodstock Agency, which buys, sells, insures and transports horses on behalf of clients, yesterday reported almost unchanged interim pre-tax losses of £124,000 for the six months to September 30. Shares in the company fell 5p to 95p, having more than doubled in value over the past four years. Turnover rose slightly from £2.4 million to £2.5 million, while earnings per share fell from 3.2p to 3.1p. No interim dividend will be paid.

## Yarrow signs contract

YARROW, the Clydeside shipyard, yesterday confirmed that it had won a multimillion-pound contract that will guarantee work well into the next century. Work on the contract, to build three warships for the Royal Brunei Navy, will start next year at the Glasgow yard. The contract, which was announced two years ago and signed yesterday, is believed to be worth £200 million. The yard employs 2,000 workers and the new boats are classed as offshore patrol vessels.

## Glynwed disposals

GLYNWED INTERNATIONAL, the engineering group, has sold three more UK businesses with a combined turnover of £11 million, for an undisclosed sum. The sale of Leavlite Electropaint, IsoSystems, and PTFE Fabricators reflects the company's decision to dispose of its construction-related businesses. In 1997 the group sold interests with a combined turnover of £160 million. There has been speculation that the company may sell its metals division, valued at £170 million.

## Marlborough halt

SHARES in Marlborough International were suspended yesterday while it seeks shareholder approval to take over Walker Hamill, another recruitment firm. The £17 million acquisition — a reverse takeover under the rules of the Developing Companies Market and the Alternative Investment Market — will be funded through a placement of five million shares at 152p and £10 million in cash. Plans to seek a full listing on the Irish and London exchanges will not be affected.

TOURIST RATES

| | Bank Buys | Bank Sells |
|---|---|---|
| Australia $ | 2.57 | 2.39 |
| Austria Sch | 21.96 | 20.30 |
| Belgium Fr | 64.82 | 59.86 |
| Canada $ | 2.469 | 2.281 |
| Cyprus CypE | 0.919 | 0.847 |
| Denmark Kr | 11.98 | 11.07 |
| Finland Mkk | 8.58 | 8.83 |
| France Fr | 10.47 | 9.69 |
| Germany Dm | 3.15 | 2.91 |
| Greece Dr | 497 | 458 |
| Hong Kong $ | 13.48 | 12.28 |
| Iceland | 131 | 111 |
| Ireland Pt | 1.24 | 1.15 |
| Israel Shk | 6.29 | 5.64 |
| Italy Lira | 3116 | 2879 |
| Japan Yen | 225.13 | 207.60 |
| Malta | 0.884 | 0.625 |
| Netherlds Gld | 3.558 | 3.261 |
| New Zealand $ | 2.83 | 2.69 |
| Norway Kr | 12.93 | 11.99 |
| Portugal Esc | 317.53 | 285.50 |
| S Africa Rd | 8.82 | 7.86 |
| Spain Pta | 264.28 | 245.50 |
| Sweden Kr | 13.91 | 12.81 |
| Switzerland Fr | 2.59 | 2.38 |
| Turkey Lira | 356480 | 336832 |
| USA $ | 1.741 | 1.598 |

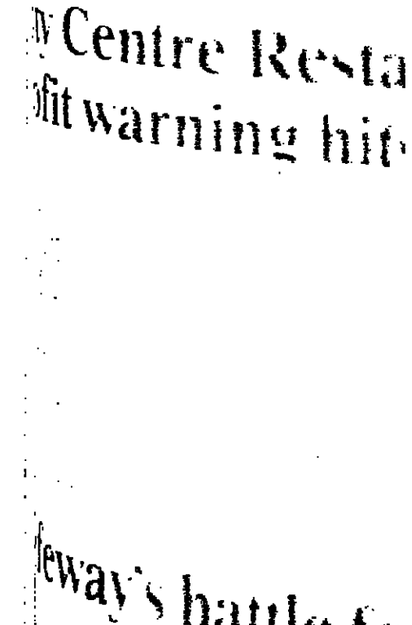
Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.


THE SUNDAY TIMES

RANK DISORDER

"When Andrew Teare, Rank's chief executive, presents the results for the leisure group next month, he will paint a reassuring picture. However, a drama is unfolding that threatens to tear Rank apart"

*Business Focus — The Sunday Times tomorrow*

Another

lied Colloid
ith vow of p

Centre Resta
fit warning hit

eway's battle fo

هكذا من الإصل



# Another body blow for Yorkshire

## COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Geoffrey Boycott's defection to Dorset was enough of a body blow for Yorkshire. But if Bradford's worst named company, Allied Colloids, is going to win the loyalty of its shareholders in its battle to fend off the £1.1 billion Hercules bid, it must do a little better. Colloids opens its latest and most important defence document with a striking admission. It recognises that, for eight years from 1988 to 1996, its record on improving profits was pretty dismal, with overhead costs rising faster than sales. As you might expect, Colloids claims that much has changed. No longer fixated by sales growth alone, the company is "now clearly focused on profit".

The first fruits of this new approach are already coming through: this year's pre-tax profits will be up by 36 per cent to £74 million. There is more. Production improvement and other changes should put £10 million on next year's profits, and additional capacity in Cleethorpes will add many more millions to the bottom line over the next five years. Phew!

But for all these promises, Colloids is strangely silent on an important criticism levelled by Hercules. It seeks to undermine the image of David Farrar and his team at Colloids as a "new broom" management, pointing out that Mr Farrar became chief executive designate nearly four years ago and had previously headed the North American operations. Colloids does not disclose separate figures for this unit, but it is believed to represent the bulk of the group's Americas divisions, whose performance, claims Hercules, captures the Colloids story in a nutshell.

Oddly, Colloids fails to address this suggestion. Informally, it says he turned the North American company around, turning $5 million of losses into $5 million of profits. Sounds impressive — so why not publish the figures? Colloids claims it has no need to respond to irrelevant nitpicking by Hercules that relies on selective use of figures. But the only hope of remaining independent depends on Colloids establishing the credibility of management. Hercules has raised what looks like a fundamental reason not to believe Mr Farrar's blue sky optimism. If the figures exist to refute this impression, why not publish them?

Colloids claims that its good record of sales growth has traditionally given it premium rating. Applying that rating to its forecast of 8p of earnings, values its shares at 174p. But maybe Colloids premium rating was because of past hopes for a profits recovery. Given a market rating, Colloids is only worth 139p, and Hercules is already offering 155p. But Colloids shares currently stand at 168½p. Hercules might be persuaded to pay a few bob more, rather than allow the risk of Colloids escaping its grasp. However, Colloids shares would fall if the bid fails. The safe option for small shareholders is to follow JP Morgan, Scottish Widows and Hill Samuel — and sell in the market.

### The art of knowing when to say 'no'

This weekend, Gerry Robinson is likely to be at his weekend retreat in Ireland, having left Granada's central London headquarters at a fairly reasonable hour. He does not like to stay too late in the office, which he can justify on the one hand by quoting Armand Hammer's maxim that anyone in the office after 6pm should be fired because they cannot organise their workload, and on the other by pointing out that Granada is a leisure company after all. This relaxed attitude to management has not served Gerry too badly. The broker SBC Warburg Dillon Read pointed out earlier this week that Granada has strongly outperformed its rivals and values Gerry and his sidekick, Charles Allen, at £500 million.

So a few hundred thousand in the back pockets of Granada directors to cut their contractual notice periods should hardly matter. Or so Ian Martin, the chairman of Granada's remuneration committee argues. Mr Martin — whose career includes spells at those paragons of frugality Grand Metropolitan, Unigate and Kohlberg Kravis Roberts — argues. He has sent a letter to the Association of British Insurers saying the payments are in line with the Greenbury report on directors' pay and are in shareholders interest. How come? Well, says Mr Martin, "it would have been a mistake to risk demotivating the executive directors at this time".

Am I the only person who is tired of this argument? Why does it seem that 99 per cent of the population are trusted to work hard at their job for a straight salary, yet directors of public companies will only pull their finger out if there is a juicy bonus in prospect and there is a good pay off if anything goes wrong. As part of Gerry Robinson's contract to be chairman of the Arts Council — a job he is doing in his spare time while continuing as executive chariman of Granada — is there going to be a large bonus element, share options and a two year notice period? No. Will he do the best job he can? Yes.

This row about the extra payments should never have blown up. The executive directors of Granada do well enough from their salary, bonus, options and long-term incentive plans to not need the money. Granada does not need the bad publicity. The sensible option would be for Robinson and co to forgo the payments to show that they recognise the criticisms and are of a like mind with their shareholders. That would be enlightened leadership by our new arts supremo.

### No time to hector Hector

Hector the tax inspector seems a genial chap. But as the deadline for self-assessment tightens to a mere fortnight, Hector is challenging Harriet Harman and Anthony Julius as the country's favourite figure of hate. But amid all the tosh said about self-assessment, nothing is quite as ridiculous as the special pleading being led by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which wants the final deadline put back.

While it might be argued that the Inland Revenue's advertising campaigns have not been as extensive or as informative as they should be, the accountants should remember that the tax year finished on April 5 — ten months before the deadline. We all procrastinate, but if taxpayers expected a rebate rather than a further bill, 3.5 million of them would not have waited ten months to fill out their tax forms.

If anyone deserves sympathy in the midst of this débâcle it is the tax inspectors themselves. Self-assessment has been designed to save the Government money by passing the onus on to the taxpayer, who ultimately will pay less. The accountants have drummed up extra business, not least by scaring poor taxpayers into the arms of the bean counters. But the inspectors have been the middle men in this whole process. They have been processing millions of forms, many of which are probably filled out incorrectly. They are keen to get all the forms in so that they can complete the job. So give Hector a break, Gordon Brown, and stick to the timetable.

### Limp sanction

THE £70,000 bill that the DTI is likely to pick up from its bungled attempt to extradite Roger Levitt is a salutory lesson at a time when the DTI is rather pleased with itself for getting Terry Venables banned as a director. But the ban hardly restricts the former England football coach's actions. The department needs reminding that this sanction is a limp lettuce leaf and reform of how financial miscreants are treated is urgently needed.

JOHN HOULIHAN



David Farrar, Allied's chief executive, said there was a compelling case for rejecting the Hercules offer

# Allied Colloids fights bid with vow of profits boost

BY PAUL DURMAN

ALLIED COLLOIDS, the chemicals company fighting a £1.1 billion takeover bid from Hercules, the US group, yesterday revealed a £74 million profit forecast and the promise of an annual £11.5 million boost from cost savings and efficiency improvements (See Commentary, this page).

The Bradford-based company has also been forced to admit that it misled its shareholders in a statement that it made about CPS, the American company that it bought for £244 million in late 1996. The Takeover Panel asked Colloids to correct its previous assertion that results quoted for CPS excluded profits on sales to other group companies.

Hercules said it was "extraordinary that Allied Colloids' management could be so confused about its own figures". Keith Elliott, chairman of Hercules, said: "Shareholders will draw their own conclusions about management's ability to monitor and control CPS and Allied Colloids' other businesses."

Colloids, which is advised by Schroders, the merchant bank, made its erroneous statement in an attempt to rebut Hercules's suggestions that CPS's profits had stagnated. Colloids had said Hercules was making "completely inappropriate" comparisons.

The company's pre-tax profit forecast, representing a 36 per cent rise, was in line with City estimates. It said efficiency improvements and reduced raw material costs would produce an ongoing benefit of £11.5 million, all of which would be reflected in the results for the next financial year, starting in April.

Additionally, improvements at its Cleethorpes plant would provide additional capacity for very little additional cost, its defence document said. Colloids suggested this could produce £11.9 million additional profit next year, rising to £30.6 million by 2002-03.

David Farrar, chief executive, said that together with its "outstanding record of sales growth", a trend that Colloids expects to continue, this amounted to a compelling case for rejecting the Hercules offer of 155p a share.

Shares in Colloids climbed 1½p to 168½p, suggesting the City expects Hercules to raise its offer. Analysts at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson suggested that a price of at least 190p would be more appropriate, and forecast a £90 million profit for 1999.

## Hepworth warns of £50m charge

HEPWORTH shares slid 5.5 per cent to 198½p after the building materials group said that full-year figures in March would include a one-off charge of £50 million (Jennifer Hanawald writes).

The company said that £35 million related to "cost improvement plans" after the strategic review by Jean-François Chene, the chief executive, and £15 million related to non-cash items.

Mike Foster, of Credit Lyonnais Lang, said: "I do not think the shares have much further to fall, but I wouldn't recommend anyone buy it [Hepworth] as a recovery play at this stage."

Mr Foster has revised his full-year estimates down slightly to £52.5 million, and cut the following year from £58 million to £50.2 million.

Tempus, page 31

# Five fall foul of PIA's deadline

BY CLARE STEWART

FIVE of Britain's largest firms of financial advisers have failed to meet the deadline imposed by the Personal Investment Authority for dealing with cases of pensions misselling.

The companies on the latest "name and shame" list are Burns Anderson, Countrywide Independent, DBS Financial, Financial Options and IFA Network. They had been given until December 31 to deal with the most urgent cases.

The PIA said the firms "were significantly behind the field" in dealing with mis-selling problems. The PIA has now begun investigations to decide what further action may be taken. Last year DBS Financial was fined £425,000 by the PIA. The PIA said that overall the 40 companies with the most pension cases to review had completed 90 per cent of the most important cases. Helen Liddell, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said: "The first deadline has now passed and most of the large firms appear to have met it. Those who have not must face the consequences."

Separate figures from the Association of British Insurers show that pensions providers had dealt with 91.6 per cent of their most urgent cases by the end of December. But five of the 64 pensions groups under review had missed the 90 per cent target. These were Guardian Royal Exchange, Royal Liver Assurance, Sun Life of Canada, Reliance Mutual and GAN Life.

It is estimated that more than half a million people may have been mis-sold a personal pension.

Pensions launch, page 64

## Seagate to make 10,000 redundant

SEAGATE Technologies Inc, the world's largest producer of hard disk drives for personal computers, is to make about 10,000 employees, or a tenth of its workforce, redundant, blaming a fall in demand and a price war in the industry (Tunku Varadarajan writes).

About 7,350 jobs will be lost in Asian plants. Operations in the US and Europe will lose 1,350 and 1,120 workers respectively. Last month Seagate said it would close its plant in Ireland. There will be a $250 million charge against the redundancies.

All three of the top disk drive makers, Seagate, Quantum Corp and Western Digital, have sent out distress signals recently as a glut on the market for disk drives has hit prices.

# City Centre Restaurants profit warning hits shares

BY DOMINIC WALSH

SHARES in City Centre Restaurants fell more than 10 per cent yesterday after the group said poor December sales at its Deep Pan Pizza chain would hurt 1997 profits.

The company said brands such as Garfunkel's and Caffé Uno had performed strongly, but the 89-strong Deep Pan chain, which accounts for 28 per cent of group turnover, had seen a 10 per cent decline in like-for-like sales last month and a 4 per cent drop for 1997 as a whole. Analysts cut their 1997 pre-tax profit forecasts by about £2 million to £17.5 million, excluding property transactions, and the shares fell 15½p to 117½p.

James Naylor, chief executive, identified the pizza chain's 55 high street sites as the problem area. "We will be looking closely at the sites with a view to either rebranding them or disposing of them," he said. "Clearly it's not a business for the future." However, the 34 units on leisure parks would be retained.

In the year to December 31, City Centre turnover rose 25 per cent, to £166 million, helped by the addition of 51 restaurants, taking its total to 281. The success of Caffé Uno has forced the group to make a provision of £800,000 for profit-related payments to Scott Charlesworth, the brand's managing director.

Tempus, page 31

## Bradford & Bingley lifts mortgages

Bradford & Bingley, the second-largest building society, is expected to raise its mortgage rate to 8.45 per cent with effect from next month. For the society's 250,000 customers who are under an annual review scheme, where mortgage payments are adjusted only once a year, monthly mortgage bills are set to soar. The rate that borrowers have been paying for the past 12 months was fixed at 6.99 per cent. The new rate, an increase of 1.46 per cent, must be paid until 1999.

## S&P rating for IPC buyout

Standard & Poor's has given B ratings to the debt associated with Cinven's planned £860 million purchase of IPC Magazines from Reed Elsevier, the international information and publishing group. S&P assigned a straight B rating to the planned £180 million of senior unsecured interest bearing and discount notes to be issued by IPC. The agency also assigned a modest BB- corporate credit and bank loan rating to a £425 million secured syndicated loan.

# Safeway's battle for savers

BY SUSAN EMMETT

SAFEWAY has taken an aggressive stand in the battle for savers with the launch of its new high interest direct savings account.

The instant access account, which opens on Monday, offers tiered interest rates of up to 7.4 per cent for deposits of £2,500 or over. But rates are disappointing lower down the scale, with 4 per cent paid on sums under £500. The minimum opening balance is £50. Safeway's fledgeling banking operation is through a joint venture with Abbey National.

Yesterday Halifax set up a telephone-based savings operation in an attempt to reject accusations that it offers poor rates to investors. The bank pays 4.45 per cent on balances of £10,000 on its branch-based savings account. Halifax Direct will pay up to 7.85 per cent on balances of £40,000 or more and 7.3 per cent for the minimum deposit of £10,000.

The growth in telephone banking has put traditional high street banks under pressure. Standard Life has attracted more than £85 million in deposits since the launch of its telephone savings account this month.

Weekend Money, page 56




Transfer your outstanding balances to a Bank of Scotland Visa Card and save money.

| Issuer | APR | Annual Fee | Savings with this Bank of Scotland Visa Card |
|---|---|---|---|
| Barclaycard | 22.9% | £10 | £411.89 |
| Lloyds | 22.9% | £12 | £403.60 |
| NatWest | 21.9% | £12 | £346.68 |
| Midland | 21.6% | £12 | £335.15 |
| Bank of Scotland | 13.9% | nil | |

Source: MoneyFacts 23/12/97.

For the 10 million credit cardholders who don't clear their balance each month • Not a special offer – 13.9% APR is our standard rate • If you keep an average balance of £3,000 you could save over £400 • Set your own spending limit and agree it with us • No annual fee • Free credit card cheques make it easy to transfer other card and store balances.

BANK OF SCOTLAND
BANKING DIRECT
0800 236 700

Please send me more information on Bank of Scotland Visa Card. Post to: Bank of Scotland, Banking Direct, FREEPOST, 16 Bernard Street, Edinburgh EH6 6PP. E.mail: bospress@marketdb.demon.co.uk

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____ Telephone Number: _____ ODLF/17.1

Please note: To apply for credit facilities you must be aged 18 or over. Full details and a written Consumer Credit quotation are available from Bank of Scotland Banking Direct, Pitreavie Business Park, Dunfermline, KY09 4DS. All lending is subject to appraisal by the Bank of the applicant's financial status. "Bank of Scotland Banking Direct" and the Bank of Scotland Visa Card are registered Trade Marks of The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland. *For all transactions except cash advances for which the APR is 18.6%. A minimum of 3% or £5 of the outstanding balance, whichever is the greater, must be repaid each month. There is no interest free credit period on this card. Typical example is based on a balance of £3,000 that remains constant over 24 months and where appropriate annual fees have been added.

# Controversial restaurateur who always has something on boil

**Dominic Walsh** on the latest ventures of Jimmy Lahoud



What's cooking: Jimmy Lahoud's involvement with Marco Pierre White adds spice to the proposed flotation

Jimmy Lahoud, the London restaurateur behind such fashionable Soho landmarks as L'Escargot and Quo Vadis, excites vastly different reactions. To Granada he is the business brain behind the culinary genius of Marco Pierre White; to Mr White he is "the svengali of the restaurant world". But to the Restaurateurs Association of Great Britain (RAGB), from which he was expelled in 1995, he is a defender of kitchen violence.

His expulsion followed an undercover TV investigation into violence in some of the UK's best-known restaurants. Some of the worst scenes showed Garry Hollihead, Michelin-starred chef at L'Escargot, meting out blows on frightened underlings. In the wake of the programme, the RAGB called upon those involved to explain themselves. Michael Gottlieb, the association's president, said: "We gave him plenty of opportunities to respond, but he made no response whatsoever, so we did what we said we would do and expelled him from the association."

The implication is that, since he refused to criticise his chef, he was condoning his actions. Indeed, Mr Hollihead is now employed by Mr Lahoud at MPW, which he opened with Marco Pierre White last year in London's Docklands.

But the Lebanese-born restaurateur is aghast at the suggestion that he turns a blind eye to violence. "Let me make it clear that we do not support or condone violence in the kitchen in any shape or form," he said. "I could have sacked Garry, but we would have lost a considerable talent. We all flip at some time or another. What I did was to counsel him and discuss ways of relieving some of the pressure that caused the situation. We sat down and resolved the problem."

Mr Lahoud is also clearly unimpressed with the RAGB. "The last time I received a letter like that was when I was a schoolboy. To be quite honest, it was an insult and I didn't write back. Being expelled was of little consequence to me."

He is equally dismissive of the controversy surrounding his acquisition of L'Escargot in 1993, when the receivers were persuaded to accept Mr Lahoud's £400,000 offer even though a consortium of investors was ready to pay £625,000. "You've got to move quickly on something like this," he said. "You can't blame me for acting quickly. Although their bid was higher, they didn't get their act together. There was nothing underhand."

An ability to grasp opportunities has been a feature of Mr Lahoud's 25-year career in the restaurant industry. Following a degree in food technology at Cairo University, he became a trainee manager at Grand Metropolitan and showed the first signs of the entrepreneurial flair that characterises his business dealings.

"The company had a restaurant, King Henry's in Soho, that was losing money," he recalled. "It was a white elephant and they were planning to sell it, so I asked to take it over. I offered to work for six months for no salary and I would only get paid if it made money. Within three months it went from the red into the black. I was named manager of the year, I got a £1,000 bonus and I became a troubleshooter who sorted out their restaurants."

But having acquired a taste for turning around restaurants for other people, he eventually decided to do it for himself. In 1984 he bought Quo Vadis, which was where he first came across the talent of Marco Pierre White.

That partnership has burgeoned into MPW Criterion, a joint venture with Granada, the media and hotels group, that could see both men become multimillionaires when it is floated on the stock market next year. Mr Lahoud, who has a 10 per cent stake, forecasts profits of £5 million at flotation and believes it could be worth up to £100 million.

In the build up to flotation, some £11 million is to be spent refurbishing some of the 11 restaurants injected into the venture. In addition to Quo Vadis, the Criterion and MPW, the group has secured several of London's finest dining rooms, including the Waldorf's Palm Court, the Oak Room at Le Méridien and the Grill Room at the Café Royal — all owned by Granada and leased to MPW Criterion. Four other Granada hotels are involved — the Regent Palace in London, the Queen's in Leeds, the Randolph in Oxford and the Bath Spa — as well as the Mirabelle, another once-great London dining room.

Mr Lahoud also talks confidently of building the value-for-money MPW concept into a national chain; the aim is to have at least six sites in London by the time the company floats, with the Quayside restaurant at St Katharine's Dock — another of Mr Lahoud's interests — likely to be the next site.

The combination of some of the UK's finest restaurants and the volatile genius of Mr White is guaranteed to make this one of the most eagerly awaited flotations for years, and Mr Lahoud admits he is happy to let Mr White grab the limelight. "He's the best frontman in the world. He creates the best PR there is in the industry. I don't have that ego you need."

But Mr Lahoud, who will be managing director, is adamant that his partner is no longer the *enfant terrible* he is portrayed as and will not be a liability. "Marco will be doing what he does best: putting a concept together, creating the menus, controlling the standards and designing the decor. I will run the restaurants profitably and successfully."

Of more immediate concern to Mr Lahoud are his attempts to raise £3 million from private investors to launch a new company called China Jazz Worldwide. If the offer for subscription, which closes on January 30, is a success he will use the money to launch two distinct restaurant concepts, China Jazz and China Blues, offering modern Chinese food and live music.

The first upmarket China Jazz establishment will be developed in an art deco building in London's Berkeley Square at a cost of £1.65 million, while the mid-spend China Blues will kick off with the purchase of the existing China Blues in Camden. Mr Lahoud said both formats would be expanded as chains, although China Jazz would be developed only in other capital cities. He said at least ten China Blues venues would open in the UK over three years, with sites already pinpointed in Covent Garden and Birmingham.

The plans sound ambitious, but Mr Lahoud is convinced the restaurant boom is set to continue and that there is a market for an alternative to the Chinese restaurants that have proliferated in this country.

He said: "We're modernising the food and bridging the gap between English and Chinese food. It's more health-conscious and cleaner on the palate, avoiding the heaviness of the usual Chinese food."

He said the aim was to secure a listing on the unregulated Ofex market with the possibility of an AIM flotation further down the line.

The board of China Jazz Worldwide includes Ian Ousey, currently finance director of Pearson Television Productions, and Frederik Hsu, who owns the Shimla Pinks restaurant chain. Another key member of the team is the operations manager, James Khan. However, for the time being he is prevented from being a director because he was declared bankrupt in 1995 after the failure of Londinium, a property company that was sold to Ex-Lands a year earlier. Mr Khan, who claims to have been the only loser from the collapse, may join the board later as he expects to be discharged from bankruptcy soon.

Although Mr Lahoud claimed none of his own restaurants had ever failed, he admitted that he had been forced to wind up three businesses in 1994, after falling out with his then partner.

A search of directorships at Companies House under his full name, Gamal Youseff Lahoud, reveals that a company called KG Catering and two subsidiaries were liquidated, losing unsecured creditors tens of thousands of pounds. One of the companies owned the Quayside restaurant, which he subsequently bought back from the receivers.

"It was a bad time," he explained. "We were in the middle of a recession. I thought it was a good time to pick up businesses cheaply, but [my partner] didn't want to expand as he thought it was risky. As a result the partnership failed and there was a knock-on effect on some subsidiaries."

He said he regretted that some creditors had lost money, but added: "In a conflict like that everybody loses. There are no winners. We've all lost money. But sometimes the odd failure gives you the strength to go on and succeed. One learns from one's mistakes."

The flotations of MPW Criterion and China Jazz Worldwide will be an opportunity to show he has learnt those lessons.

# Bowman sets sights on a fresh challenge with Liberty

IN THE HOT SEAT



**PHILIP BOWMAN**

Born: December 14, 1952.
Educated: Westminster, Pembroke College, Cambridge.
1973: Price Waterhouse.
1985: Bass, leisure division.
1991: Appointed finance director, Bass.
1994: Chairman and chief executive, Bass Taverns.
1995: Chief financial officer, Coles Myer.
1998: Chairman, Liberty.

By most measures the chairmanship of Liberty is an unenviable bed of nails. The autumn saw a vicious little civil war between the old guard, represented by the founding family, and the management led by Denis Cassidy, a much-travelled executive who was chairman until mid-December.

The management lost, and were out. The new chairman will have to steer a difficult course, bringing in a fresh team and managing the changes that most observers accept are needed at the famous neo-Tudor store in the West End, while endeavouring not to fall out with the old guard and go the same way as Cassidy and the rest.

For Philip Bowman, however, the future must look relatively serene compared with the last time he tried to switch careers. At Liberty, after all, most of the blood has been hosed off the walls. The bodies are off the premises and the smell of cordite has faded from the air. How different from the job that awaited him when his plane touched down at Melbourne airport early in 1995.

An Australian citizen and qualified accountant, Bowman joined the board of Bass in 1991 as finance director, reporting to Ian, now Sir Ian, Prosser, chairman and chief executive. In 1994 he took over the running of Bass Taverns. There is a ten-year age difference between Bowman and Prosser. It seemed Bowman was being given the chance to swap his calculator for a spell of hands-on management before eventual succession to the chief executive post.

It was not to be. At the start of 1995 Bowman left to join the board of Coles Myer, one of the biggest retailers in his native Australia, with the intention of taking over in due course as chief executive. There was no boardroom row with Sir Ian; Bowman, then 41, was merely nostalgic for a better life with his Australian partner, herself resident there.

Perhaps there was more to it than the lure of sun and endless prawn barbies. At Bass he was earning little more than £300,000, and in a corporate climate that frowned on fat cats and sharp salary rises. It later emerged that Coles Myer was prepared to pay A$700,000, little more in sterling terms at the time but much more in a country where the living is considerably cheaper. And there was a house worth A$3 million, rent-free, and a Mercedes Benz.

Bowman was fired three months later, but only after he had uncovered something in the Coles Myer books that provided corporate Australia with its biggest scandal since the downfall of Alan Bond. The Australian media talked about the "Bowman affair": lurid headlines went into the private lives of the protagonists but, in essence, Bowman said he had discovered that Coles Myer had lost A$20 million five years previously by underwriting the purchase of shares in a company partly owned by its then chairman.

The bean counter turned whistle-blower was notified of his sacking by a security guard sent to his holiday home. He responded with a writ for unfair dismissal, claiming A$2.16 million. Coles lodged a counter-claim but was still forced to bring in widespread boardroom changes and a new chairman.

In May last year the parties settled. The new Coles Myer directors had no interest in defending their predecessors; Bowman was pursuing other business projects. The group paid him A$1.43 million, and another A$325,000 to cover his legal costs. Both sides dropped all allegations made against each other.

But life in Australia thereafter was not easy. It is a small business community, and the same people who said privately that he had done the right thing would shun him publicly. Cocktail parties on the corporate circuit could be a bit of an ordeal.

"I needed a challenge, and I found Australia a bit of a backwater," he says now. He stepped off a plane from the United States on Monday, moving straight into an office at the store. Bowman has maintained some links with this country — for example, a non-executive directorship of BSkyB, the broadcaster. But it is unlikely anyone at the Liberty store has ever met him, except perhaps on a brief and unremembered shopping trip.



Bowman: calm future?

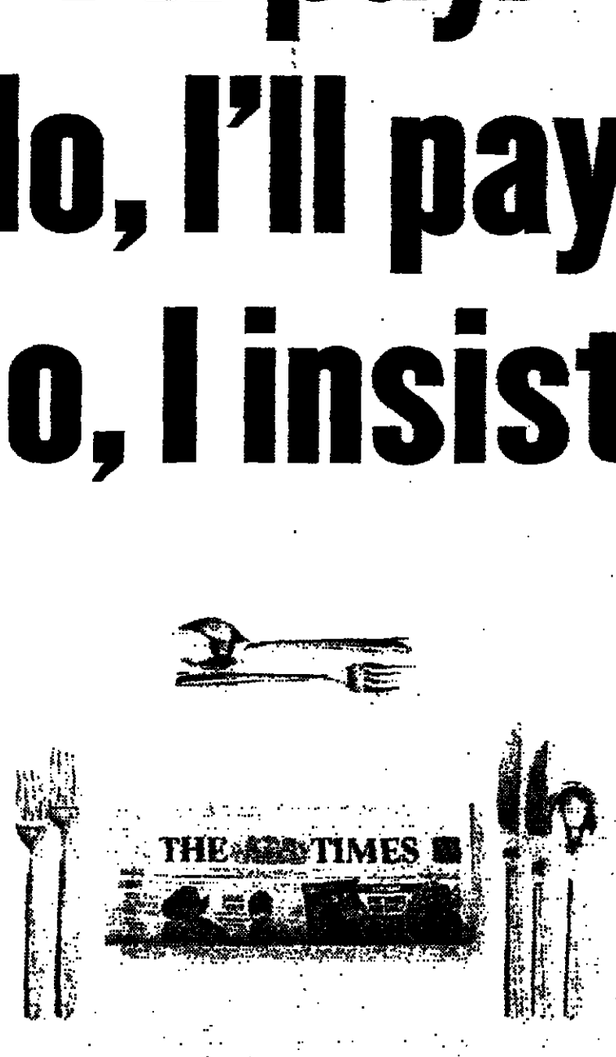
His first priority, he says, must be to get to know the staff. Headhunters must be hired to replace the depleted board. Only then can plans be drawn up for the store. He retains business interests in the US. One senses, therefore, that his future may not lie on these shores.

"Long term, I've agreed to act as non-executive chairman. But that doesn't mean I will be sitting above the shop every day counting the takings."

MARTIN WALLER

THE TIMES

"I'll pay."
"No, I'll pay."
"No, I insist."




Starting in Monday's Times, eat out for £5 in more than 600 restaurants around the country.

http://www.the-times.co.uk CHANGING TIMES

# Rocky ground

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

JUST a few days into our presidency of the EU, and the troubles pile up. The latest potential embarrassment is over Gibraltar, and the various EU directives on financial services regulation. (To be honest, it had never occurred to me that Gibraltarian financial services were regulated, but there you go). Britain has an exemplary record in enforcing EU directives in this area — rather better than Italy, where they are worried about the "professional validity" of one or two auditors, or, oh yes, Spain, as it happens. On the Rock, however, they are way behind with their Euro-homework, having failed to implement various measures going back to the 1980s.

Now the Commission has said this "intolerable situation" cannot continue. Gibraltar is a British territory, so we have eight weeks, and then it's the European Court in Luxembourg. A spokesman for Mario Monti, the Financial Services Commissioner, said: "It's a real problem for the British Government, although we know they have been putting pressure on the authorities down there." I am unable to judge the depth of his sympathy.

☐ *THOSE fertile if irreverent minds on the dealing floors have been circulating some spoof Bloomberg headlines on the Asian crisis. "Bank Origami Folds," is one. "Bank Bonsai Cuts Branch Network," and "Bank Feng Shui to Realign Debt Profile." I rather liked "Sushi Bank in Pickle — Merger with Soy Bank Likely." I will spare you what happened to Geisha Bank. More next week, if space permits.*

## Horning in

NO ONE likes property developers. Readers will know that Robert Maxted, boss of Chesterfield Properties, was last heard of touring the Horn of Africa in a jeep. Maxted has at last emerged unscathed, if not unrattled. He was arrested and spent New Year's Eve under armed guard. Maxted claims he strayed into a forbidden area, but I suspect the Ethiopians discovered his real mission: scouting for retail warehouse sites.

☐ *TIMES are hard in the Far East. Ong Beng Seng, the super-rich and very shrewd investor behind the new hotel complex at Canary Wharf, has sold his corporate jet. The 11-seater Gulfstream needed about $1.5 million spending on it, but Ong has instead opted for a round of belt-tightening.*

*And sales of clarets and other fine wines have fallen catastrophically, the London wine merchant, Laytons, tells me. James Radcliffe says: "We are scouring the market, because we believe there are parcels of rare quality wine previously sold by brokers that Asian owners might now like to sell."*

## New world

PSION'S attempts to present itself as a leading edge computer company are not helped by its technical support helpline. A colleague had a problem. After 20 minutes of Dvořák he finally reached a human being. "Stick a paperclip into the hole on the left hand side above the on button," suggested Psion's helpful anorak. And it worked. Very high-tech. But perhaps Psion should replace the Dvořák with a recorded message: "Please poke your Psion with a stick, and if this does not work hold the line for real technical support."

MARTIN WALLER

STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

*Stock Market Writer of the Year*

# Demand for domestic issues fuels FTSE rise

UK COMPANIES with strong domestic earnings appear to be all the rage again in the City. Heavy buying of domestic issues fuelled another sharp rise on the equity market that saw share prices close just below their best of the day. The FTSE 100 index, up 111 points at its best, eventually closed 97.3 higher at 5,263.1.

A wave of institutional funds carried the stock market along with it as investors focused on domestic issues in an attempt to isolate themselves from the problems associated with the volatility in Asia.

Asian markets had accounted themselves well overnight and investor sentiment was further bolstered by a positive start to Wall Street.

By the close of business almost a billion shares had changed hands with the FTSE index shrugging off the heavy falls seen in Hong Kong on Monday to close 124.8 up on the week.

Among the leaders, **Vodafone** was the best performer with a jump of 34p, or 7.5 per cent, at 483p as 13 million shares were traded. That will come as good news for SBC Warburg Dillon Read, the broker, which recently set a target price of 500p. **British Telecom** was also wanted 21p dearer at 547p while **Centrica** consolidated its position above the 100p level with a rise of 3½p at 106½p. There were also gains for **National Grid**, 15p to 290p, **British Energy**, 22p to 454p, **Rank Group**, 16¼p to 343p, **Prudential**, 32p to 790p, and **Kingfisher**, 33p to 949p.

The banks kept up a searing pace helped by a combination of stock shortages and bid speculation. **NatWest Bank** put on 74p at £10.70, **Royal Bank of Scotland** 40p at 860p, **Lloyds TSB** 37½p at 807½p, **Alliance & Leicester** 17p at 848p and **Halifax** 16p to 795p. Even **HSBC**, up 42p at £14.52, and **Standard Chartered**, 11p better at 570p, were able to shrug off recent worries about the Asian crisis.

Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, was behind the dramatic surge in **Bank of Scotland**, 24p dearer at 565p. The broker says it is the best-placed bank to ride out a recession because of its prudent lending policy. BoS also has the lowest cost to income ratio of all the banks. Kleinwort has set a target price of 600p a share.

Drug shares were also wanted with **Glaxo Wellcome** leading the way with a leap of 74p to £15.87, **SmithKline Beecham** 22p to 682p, and **Zeneca** 48p to £22.25.

**Argos** has become the latest retailer to highlight the problems on the high street. Sales were down over the Christmas period and now profits are likely to be only "slightly ahead" of last year. It left the price 63p down at 442p.

Things go from bad to worse at **Laura Ashley** with the price tumbling 6p to yet another low of 20p in the wake of Thursday's profits warning. The price has collapsed from 167½p last year.

Increasing concern about the impact of the problems in Asia on its profits left **British Airways** nursing a loss of 12p at 542p. The group not only provides an extensive service to the region but also has a 25 per cent stake in Qantas which has begun cutting back flights to its South-East Asia schedule.

The Asian connection also took its toll of **Dragon Oil**, down 11½p at 58½p. Brokers say the group has also run into problems with its £100 million drilling programme.

The food retailers were once again the early focus of attention with investors reassured by their domestic earnings potential. Talk of US buying pushed up **Asda** 8p to a new peak of 195p as 28 million shares changed hands.

**Safeway**, which last year held abortive merger talks with Asda, put on 11¼p at 366p as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson moved from "sell" to "hold". **Somerfield** retreated 3p to 245½p ahead of interim figures next week. Earlier this week the shares hit a new high after being tipped as a potential takeover target.



A warning took a chunk out of City Centre Restaurants' price

**It has not been the best of weeks for retailers, but Signet managed to close all-square at 31¾p as almost three million shares chares changed hands. Brokers say prospects are looking brighter for the jeweller, with trading in the US exceeding expectations. This will provide the springboard for futher gains in the shares.**

Broker are becoming increasingly anxious about the strong pound and the impact of the Asian crisis on Britain's leading engineers. ABN Amro Hoare Govett, the broker, started the rot by cutting its profit forecast for **Glynwed International**, down 13½p at 240p, from £89 million to £79 million.

Other engineers to come under the hammer included **Siebe**, 47p at £10.47, **McKechnie**, down 43½p at 395½p, **IMI**, 18p at 395p, **Morgan Crucible**, 11½p at 416p, **Charter**, 24½p at 652½p, **BBA Group**, 13p at 354½p, **Bodycote**, 16½p at 94p, **Powerscreen**, 11p at 572½p, **TI Group**, 16p at 464p, **Vickers**, 16½p at 214½p and **Weir**, 10p at 252½p.

A "sell" recommendation from Panmure Gordon, the broker, left **SIG** nursing a fall of 23p at 205½p. To compund the misery for the building supplies group it has also set a target price of 180p for the shares.

Credit Lyonnais Laing, the broker, has been urging clients to take profits at **Nycomed**, the most recent newcomer to the top 100. The price responded with a fall of 25p at £22.20.

A profits warning left **City Centre Restaurants** down 15½p at 117½p. Operating profits for the year just ended will be below market expectations after a disappointing performance from Deep Pan Pizza.

Some positive comments from Cazenove, the broker, lifted **BTG** 40p to 722½p. Word is a deal with General Motors may be struck soon. NatWest Markets was positive about **Misys** and the shares responded with a jump of 77½p at £19.85.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Persistent worries about the Bank of England independent Monetary Policy Committee initiating another rate rise when it meets next month continued to undermine sentiment. The worst falls were seen among shorter dated issues.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt lost £⅛ at £123⁵⁄₁₆ in moderate trading. In the cash market Treasury 7 per cent 2007 closed three ticks lower at £108⅝.

☐ **NEW YORK:** The Dow Jones industrial average rallied amid continued relief that Asian shares, particularly in Japan, had recovered overnight. The index was up 86.94 to 7778.71 at midday.

## MOVERS OF THE WEEK

| | Current price | Week's change | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Halifax | 795p | +26p | Bid speculation |
| SIG | 205½p | -34p | Brokers says "sell" |
| Argos | 442p | -102p | Profits warning |
| Dixons Group | 498p | -81½p | Sales down |
| Laura Ashley | 20p | -15½p | Another profits warning |
| Pace Micro Tech | 38½p | -7p | News of further losses |
| Cadbury Schweppes | 700p | +55p | Coca-Cola deal extended |
| Orange | 270p | +20½p | Shares enjoy rerating |
| Portmeirion | 240p | -65p | Profits warning |

## MAJOR INDICES

| | |
|---|---|
| **New York (midday):** | |
| Dow Jones | 7778.71 (+86.94) |
| S&P Composite | 963.34 (+12.51) |
| **Tokyo:** | |
| Nikkei Average | 16196.45 (+424.47) |
| **Hong Kong:** | |
| Hang Seng | 8900.04 (+321.06) |
| **Amsterdam:** | |
| AEX Index | 919.65 (+16.29) |
| **Sydney:** | |
| AO | 2614.0 (+29.5) |
| **Frankfurt:** | |
| DAX | 4144.46 (+36.12) |
| **Singapore:** | |
| Straits | 1245.26 (+11.90) |
| **Brussels:** | |
| General | 14646.55 (+161.79) |
| **Paris:** | |
| CAC-40 | 2976.09 (+43.34) |
| **Zurich:** | |
| SKA Gen | 1264.40 (+20.10) |
| **London:** | |
| FT 30 | 3327.2 (+25.6) |
| FTSE 100 | 5263.1 (+97.3) |
| FTSE 250 | 4512.5 (+7.7) |
| FTSE 350 | 2521.9 (+37.6) |
| FTSE Eurotrack 100 | 2699.65 (+11.44) |
| FTSE All-Share | 2461.58 (+34.74) |
| FTSE Non Financials | 2461.52 (+22.70) |
| FTSE Fixed Interest | 136.51 (+0.22) |
| FTSE Govt Secs | 105.29 (+0.06) |
| Bargains | 75363 |
| SEAQ Volume | 970.4m |
| US$ | 1.6365 (+0.0071) |
| German Mark | 2.9905 (+0.0073) |
| Exchange Index | 105.1 (+0.2) |
| Bank of England official close (4pm): | |
| £:ECU | 1.5105 |
| £:SDR | 1.2197 |
| RPI | 160.0 Dec (3.6%) Jan 1987=100 |
| RPIX | 158.3 Dec (2.7%) Jan 1987=100 |

## RECENT ISSUES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Abbey Natl Dublin | 93½ | ... | |
| BCO Technologies | 193½ | ... | |
| Bond Intl Software | 71½ | ... | |
| General Inds | 35½ | ... | |
| Longmead (135) | 144½ | ... | |
| Marchpole | 109½ | + | 1 |
| Razorback Vehicles | 102½ | ... | |
| Second Scot Zr Dv | 101½ | ... | |
| Second Scottish | 107¼ | + | ¼ |
| Wyndham Motor | 103½ | ... | |

## RIGHTS ISSUES

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Calluna n/p (9) | 1 | ... |

## MAJOR CHANGES

| | |
|---|---|
| **RISES:** | |
| Jardine Math | 252p (+20½p) |
| Vodafone | 483p (+34p) |
| BTG | 722½p (+40p) |
| Rank Gp | 343p (+16¼p) |
| Ryl Bk Scot | 860p (+40p) |
| Lonrho | 559p (+26p) |
| Bank Scotland | 565p (+24p) |
| Prudential | 790p (+32p) |
| Railtrack | 892p (+35p) |
| BT | 547p (+21p) |
| Sage Gp | 952½p (+35p) |
| Parity | 770p (+27½p) |
| Kingfisher | 949p (+33p) |
| Legal & Gen | 599p (+20p) |
| Reed Int | 634p (+20½p) |
| Smithkline | 682p (+22p) |
| Sun Life & P | 515p (+16p) |
| Royal & Sun Al | 658p (+20p) |
| **FALLS:** | |
| Argos | 442p (-63p) |
| Abacus Recruit | 315p (-30p) |
| BICC | 144p (-13½p) |
| Hse of Fraser | 188½p (-15p) |
| REXAM | 253p (-18½p) |
| IMI | 395p (-18½p) |
| Johnson Matth | 501½p (-22p) |
| Weir | 252½p (-10p) |
| Glenmorangie A | 850p (-25p) |
| GEC | 380p (-11p) |
| Premier Farnell | 389p (-11p) |
| Morgan Cable | 416p (-11½p) |
| ICI | 930p (-25p) |
| Br Airways | 542p (-12p) |
| Stagecoach | 804p (-15p) |

Closing Prices Page 26

## TEMPUS

# Argos on the beach

ARGOS has suddenly discovered the concept of customer service but it may be too late. A year ago, Christmas sales were hit by capacity constraints — in plain English, not enough people to man the tills — so big queues formed and customers walked out. The result was flat sales, but this year revenue from existing stores actually fell in the run-up to Christmas, and for a national retailer with pricing advantage, that is very worrying.

Argos's selling point is price — a low cost-base and no-frills approach to retailing gives it a huge margin advantage over rivals who must carry the cost of expensive periodic shop refits. But there is an alternative to catalogue shopping. Mail order firms can redirect the saving from a lack of high street real estate into distribution, offering customers convenience while maintaining high margins. It is no accident that mail order firms such as Littlewood's are reporting stomping sales while Argos stumbles.

Equally worrying is the possibility that Argos is badly positioned — its bottom of the range jewellery performed badly while mid-market rivals, such as Goldsmiths, scored well at Christmas. Argos claims that price is still very important to shoppers but greater affluence is clearly pushing the public into spending more for better service and there lies the rub. As a high street discounter, Argos offers neither cachet nor customer convenience. Desperate for more sales, the group is launching home delivery, but home shoppers will have to pay extra, hardly an incentive to buy. In this retail market, Argos is neither fish nor fowl and its frantic rush into home shopping could leave it stranded on the beach.

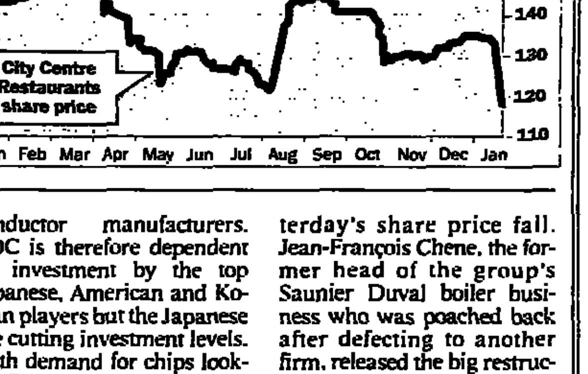
## City Centre

WHEN James Naylor, chief executive of City Centre Restaurants, took the baton from the founding Kaye brothers in 1993, it did not take him long to decide Deep Pan Pizza had had its day. He recognised a tired brand fighting a losing battle against Whitbread's dominant Pizza Hut chain.

Things have gone from bad to worse as pizza has become a generic food, widely available in supermarkets and through home delivery. Meanwhile, the other big player, Pizzaland, has been swallowed by Whitbread, and there is evidence that the higher-spend PizzaExpress has taken business as diners have traded up.

Mr Naylor's answer has been to whittle down Deep Pan's high street presence, while opening new units in the leisure parks springing up all over the country. Until now, the high street sites have proved a useful cash cow, but yesterday's trading update, showing a dire 10 per cent drop in Deep Pan's like-for-like sales in December, shows that the lack of investment is coming home to roost. The decision to rebrand or sell off the 55 remaining high street units is long overdue.

But in spite of yesterday's profit downgrades, City Centre's attractions remain. Mr Naylor has added a swath of brands such as Caffè Uno, Chiquito and Frankie & Benny's, all of which are producing good returns and are capable of rapid roll-out. The pain should be temporary.




## BOC

IF THE City was hoping for some reassurance from BOC that the future was not looking bleak, Danny Rosenkranz, the chairman was unable to provide a convincing rebuttal. The view from the bridge is that gases will grow, distribution will be flattish and Edwards, the vacuum technology businesses, is poised for the upturn.

Unfortunately, the upturn is not in sight and BOC's Asian markets are contracting. BOC is primarily a supplier of commodities and industrial equipment. More than a third of its sales are in the Asia/Pacific region where currency deflation and high debts are hurting domestic economies. At the very least expansion plans there are being curtailed; at worst suppliers could soon be plagued by bad debts.

BOC also suffers another disadvantage in its vacuum technology business. The principal buyers are semiconductor manufacturers. BOC is therefore dependent on investment by the top Japanese, American and Korean players but the Japanese are cutting investment levels. With demand for chips looking flat, there is little prospect of new plant being built and Edwards, although poised may find itself standing on one leg for a year or two.

BOC is right, however, to see this as an investment opportunity. The company is financially sound and a downturn is the best opportunity to seek market consolidation. The sale of Ohmeda, even if late, will reduce gearing, leaving BOC the option of investing when assets are cheap. Selling to highly cyclical industries such as steel and electronics leaves BOC vulnerable but investors who are prepared to wait this year out should see some recovery.

## Hepworth

HEPWORTH is looking distinctly vulnerable after yesterday's share price fall. Jean-François Chene, the former head of the group's Saunier Duval boiler business who was poached back after defecting to another firm, released the big restructuring number.

New managements like to do a clear-out and Hepworth's will cost £50 million but lack of competitiveness and the pressure of a high pound against the mark makes cost-cutting imperative.

The questions are: when Hepworth will come right and will it tempt a bid? The German building market has been under a cloud for so long that it seems futile to predict a recovery but Hepworth's Glow-Worm boilers business is growing and might prove attractive. The sector is ripe for consolidation and looking a year out, assuming no more restructuring, the earnings multiple is only 12 times.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

## COMMODITIES

### LIFFE

**COCOA**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar | 1023-1022 | May | unq |
| May | 1047-1046 | Jul | 1171 BID |
| Jul | 1068-1066 | Sep | 1190 SLR |
| Sep | 1087-1086 | Dec | unq |
| Dec | 1116-1115 | | |
| Mar | 1087-1086 | | Volume: 7464 |

**ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 1813-1810 | Sep | 1680 SLR |
| Mar | 1725-1722 | Nov | 1675 SLR |
| May | 1703 SLR | Jan | 1675 SLR |
| Jul | 1685 SLR | | Volume: 3667 |

**WHITE SUGAR (FOB)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Reuters | | Oct | 299.0-97.9 |
| Spot: 295.1 | | Dec | 302.6-01.5 |
| Mar | 298.0-97.2 | Mar | 308.6-07.5 |
| May | 301.5-00.7 | May | 310.6-07.7 |
| Aug | 304.0-03.2 | | Volume: 2542 |

**MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION**

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 15

| (p/kg lw) | Pig | Sheep | Cattle |
|---|---|---|---|
| GB: | 63.36 | 82.76 | 88.26 |
| (+/-) | -2.13 | -3.90 | -3.88 |
| Eng/Wales: | 63.36 | 83.54 | 87.03 |
| (+/-) | -2.13 | -3.75 | -4.65 |
| (%) | -18.0 | -18.0 | -17.0 |
| Scotland: | unq | 79.34 | 92.56 |
| (+/-) | | -2.55 | -1.73 |
| (%) | | -22.0 | -12.0 |

### ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

**CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Brent Physical | 14.85 | +0.10 |
| Brent 15 day (Mar) | 15.25 | n/c |
| Brent 15 day (Apr) | 15.55 | +0.10 |
| W Texas Intermediate (Mar) | 16.35 | -0.25 |
| W Texas Intermediate (Apr) | 16.50 | -0.20 |

**PRODUCTS ($/MT)**

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

| | Bid | Offer |
|---|---|---|
| Premium Unld | 167 (+6) | 169 (+5) |
| Gasoil EEC | 140 (-2) | 142 (-3) |
| 3.5 Fuel Oil | 70 (n/c) | 75 (n/c) |
| Naphtha | 152 (-1) | 154 (-2) |

**IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)**

**GAS OIL**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb | 140.25-40.50 | May | 145.50-45.75 |
| Mar | 142.00-42.25 | Jun | 147.50-47.75 |
| Apr | 143.50-43.75 | | Vol: 15963 |

**BRENT (6.00pm)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mar | 15.33-15.35 | Jun | 15.88-15.91 |
| Apr | 15.50-15.53 | Jul | 160.5-16.13 |
| May | n/a | | Vol: 20466 |

### GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

| LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t) | | LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan | 77.65 | Jan | 73.50 |
| Mar | 79.15 | Mar | 75.00 |
| May | 81.15 | May | 76.25 |
| Jul | 83.15 | Sep | 77.65 |
| Sep | 80.50 | Nov | 79.65 |
| Volume: 381 | | Volume: 50 | |

**LIFFE POTATO (£/t)**

| | Open | Close |
|---|---|---|
| Mar | unq | 83.0 |
| Apr | 106.5 | 106.0 |
| May | unq | 116.0 |
| | | Volume: 12 |

**RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)**

Feb 47.75-48.25

**LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)**

| | High | Low | Close |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jan 98 | 1135 | 1130 | 1131 |
| Feb 98 | 1125 | 1120 | 1125 |
| Mar 98 | 1170 | 1160 | 1160 |
| Apr 98 | 1185 | 1185 | 1185 |
| Vol: 154 lots | | Open Interest: | 1770 |

Index 1175 -16

### LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Rudolf Wolff

| (Official) (Volume prev day) | Cash | 3mth | Vol |
|---|---|---|---|
| Copper Gde A ($/tonne) | 1708.5-1709.5 | 1735.0-1736.0 | 1937225 |
| Lead ($/tonne) | 519.00-520.00 | 524.00-524.50 | 468325 |
| Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne) | 1104.0-1104.5 | 1127.0-1128.0 | 758125 |
| Tin ($/tonne) | 5150.0-5155.0 | 5170.0-5175.0 | 18625 |
| Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne) | 1493.5-1494.0 | 1518.0-1518.5 | 1277300 |
| Nickel ($/tonne) | 5475.0-5480.0 | 5575.0-5585.0 | 111204 |

## LIFFE OPTIONS

| Series | | Calls Jan | Apr | Jul | Puts Jan | Apr | Jul |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| [illegible] | 180 | 15½ | 22½ | 26½ | — | 4½ | 7 |
| (*191) | 200 | 2 | 10 | 15½ | 6½ | 13 | 15½ |
| Abbey Nat | 1150 | 37½ | 96½ | 131 | 11 | 68½ | 89 |
| (*1175) | 1200 | 12 | 71½ | 106 | 35 | 95 | 114 |
| [illegible] | 800 | 45½ | 72½ | 92 | 1 | 24 | 34 |
| (*843) | 850 | 9½ | 44½ | 65 | 14 | 46½ | 57½ |
| [illegible] | 500 | 45 | 61½ | 74½ | — | 8½ | 18½ |
| (*544½) | 550 | 6 | 32 | 45 | 10½ | 28½ | 39½ |
| [illegible] | 460 | 15½ | 39½ | 50½ | 2½ | 19 | 29 |
| (*472) | 500 | 1 | 21 | 31½ | 28½ | 40 | 39½ |
| [illegible] | 550 | 31½ | 56 | 70½ | 1½ | 30 | 39½ |
| (*579) | 600 | 4 | 31½ | 47 | 24½ | 57½ | 66 |
| Barclays | 1700 | 65½ | 151½ | 207½ | 11 | 88 | 120 |
| (*1754) | 1800 | 12½ | 102½ | 158 | 58½ | 139½ | 169½ |
| Bass | 900 | 16½ | 59½ | 75½ | 9 | 37 | 55½ |
| (*902) | 950 | 1 | 37 | 52 | 43½ | 64½ | 82 |
| Boots | 800 | 41 | 77 | 95½ | 2½ | 23 | 38½ |
| (*838) | 850 | 5½ | 49 | 68½ | 20½ | 45 | 61 |
| Br Airways | 500 | 39½ | 63½ | 74½ | — | 14 | 25½ |
| (*536) | 550 | 6 | 36½ | 49 | 14½ | 35 | 47 |
| BT | 520 | 23 | 60½ | 84½ | 7 | 37½ | 50½ |
| (*519) | 550 | 1½ | 55 | 58½ | 37 | 63½ | 76 |
| Br Steel | 120 | 9½ | 16 | 19 | ½ | 4 | 9 |
| (*129) | 130 | 2 | 10½ | 13½ | 3½ | 8 | 14 |
| C&W | 500 | 11 | 48½ | 57½ | 8½ | 32 | 48 |
| (*502½) | 550 | ½ | 24 | 37½ | 47½ | 61½ | 70 |
| CU | 850 | 62 | 99½ | 119 | 3½ | 54½ | 63½ |
| (*867) | 900 | 19 | 74½ | 94½ | 20½ | 80 | 89½ |
| [illegible] | 1500 | 93½ | 157 | 202 | 2½ | 64½ | 84 |
| (*1597) | 1600 | 35 | 102 | 151½ | 32½ | 111 | 132 |
| HSBC | 1450 | [illegible] | 166 | [illegible] | 36½ | 143 | 172½ |
| (*1450) | 1500 | [illegible] | 113½ | 163 | 67 | 170½ | 189 |
| Halifax | 750 | 45½ | 66½ | 87½ | — | 21½ | 27 |
| (*797½) | 800 | 8 | 38 | 60½ | 10½ | 44 | 49½ |
| ICI | 900 | 37 | 73½ | 97 | 3½ | 41 | 56 |
| (*933) | 950 | 7½ | 45 | 71½ | 23½ | 66½ | 81 |
| Land Sec | 1000 | 41½ | 85 | 99 | 3½ | 26½ | 44 |
| (*1035) | 1050 | 15 | 55 | 71 | 22½ | 48½ | 66½ |
| M&S | 550 | 40½ | 62 | 74 | — | 13½ | 23 |
| (*569½) | 600 | 5 | 32½ | 46 | 14½ | 32 | 45 |
| [illegible] | 550 | 16 | 54½ | 67½ | 6½ | 31 | 48½ |
| (*558) | 600 | 1 | 32 | 45 | 42 | 58 | 77½ |
| Nat West | 1050 | 27½ | 73 | 107½ | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| (*1065) | 1100 | 5 | 37 | 85 | 50½ | 109 | 118 |
| [illegible] | 550 | [illegible] | [illegible] | 65 | — | 15½ | 23 |
| (*596) | 600 | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | [illegible] | 35½ | 45 |
| [illegible] | 650 | 17½ | 52 | 68 | 8 | 43½ | 53½ |
| (*680) | 700 | 1 | 32 | 44 | 41 | 73 | 82 |
| [illegible] | 350 | 10½ | 20 | 39½ | 2½ | 15 | 23 |
| (*357) | 330 | 1 | 17½ | 27 | 23 | 32 | 40 |
| [illegible] | 500 | 8½ | 31 | 41 | 6½ | 27½ | 33½ |
| (*521) | 550 | — | 12½ | 21 | 38½ | 54 | 61 |
| [illegible] | 420 | 17 | — | — | 2½ | — | — |
| (*414) | 417 | 8½ | — | — | 8½ | 40 | — |
| [illegible] | 675 | 18½ | 59 | — | 10½ | 52½ | 66 |
| (*682) | 700 | 7½ | 47½ | 73 | 9½ | 52½ | 64 |
| [illegible] | 550 | 26½ | 60½ | 75 | 7 | 40 | 64 |
| (*557) | 600 | 4½ | 36 | 52 | 34½ | 68 | 90½ |
| Thames W | 900 | 27 | 65 | 86 | 2½ | 26½ | 41 |

| Series | | Calls Jan | Apr | Jul | Puts Jan | Apr | Jul |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (*823½) | 850 | 2½ | 40 | 59½ | 28 | 50½ | 65½ |
| Vodafone | 460 | 21½ | 46 | 65 | 4 | 27½ | 34½ |
| (*477½) | 500 | 3 | 27 | 45½ | 25½ | 43½ | 55 |
| Woolwich | 330 | 9 | 24 | 30 | 2 | 14½ | 19 |
| (*336½) | 360 | ½ | 11 | 17 | 23½ | 32½ | 36 |
| Zeneca | 2200 | 42 | 140½ | 212 | 24½ | 112 | 148 |
| (*2219) | 2300 | 6 | 85 | 163 | 88 | 166½ | 200 |

| Series | | Calls Feb | May | Aug | Puts Feb | May | Aug |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BTR | 160 | 10 | 16½ | 21 | 7½ | 16 | 20 |
| (*160) | 180 | 3½ | 9½ | 15 | 21½ | 30 | 32½ |
| Blue Circ | 300 | 34 | 42½ | 47½ | 2½ | 10½ | 15½ |
| (*329) | 330 | 14½ | 25 | 31 | 12½ | 23½ | 29½ |
| Br Aero | 1500 | 123 | 179½ | 223 | 20½ | 56 | 77 |
| (*1597) | 1600 | 61½ | 123½ | 171 | 57½ | 98 | 122½ |
| Br Telcm | 515 | 39½ | — | — | 6 | — | — |
| (*546½) | 565 | 12 | — | — | 26 | — | — |
| Cadbury | 700 | 24 | 45½ | 59½ | 23 | 43½ | 50½ |
| (*701) | 750 | 6½ | 26½ | 38½ | 56 | 74 | 88 |
| Energy Gp | 650 | 40½ | 50 | 55½ | 4 | 6½ | 11½ |
| (*684) | 700 | 8½ | 11 | 16 | 21½ | 19½ | 33 |
| Gallaher | 330 | 33 | 41 | 46½ | 4½ | 13½ | 16½ |
| (*357½) | 360 | 13½ | 23 | 30 | 16 | 27½ | 30½ |
| GEC | 360 | 25 | 37½ | 45 | 8½ | 13 | 21½ |
| (*379½) | 390 | 8½ | 21½ | 29½ | 19 | 26½ | 36½ |

| Series | | Calls Feb | May | — | Puts Feb | May | — |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Diageo PLC | 550 | 31½ | 48½ | — | 10 | 28 | — |
| (*568) | 600 | 8½ | 26 | — | 37½ | 55 | — |

| Series | | Calls Feb | May | Aug | Puts Feb | May | Aug |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Diageo PLC | 550 | 31½ | 48½ | 56½ | 10 | 28½ | 32 |
| (*568) | 600 | 8½ | 25½ | 33½ | 37½ | 56 | 58 |
| Hanson | 240 | 19 | 26 | 33 | 3 | 13 | 13 |
| (*250½) | 260 | 8½ | 16 | 23 | 12 | 23½ | 23½ |
| Imp Tob | 420 | 18 | 35½ | 41 | 12 | 19½ | 26 |
| (*424) | 460 | 4 | 18½ | 24 | 38½ | 42½ | 48 |
| Kingfshr | 900 | 57½ | 85½ | 105½ | 19 | 47 | 54½ |
| (*930½) | 950 | 30½ | 59 | 80 | 42 | 72 | 79 |
| Lasmo | 260 | 12 | 23½ | 29 | 8½ | 16 | 17 |
| (*262½) | 280 | 4½ | 15 | 20½ | 20 | 27 | 29½ |
| Ladbroke | 280 | 19½ | 29 | 37 | 5½ | 14 | 19½ |
| (*292) | 300 | 8½ | 19 | 27 | 15 | 24 | 29½ |
| LucasVar | 200 | 18 | 25 | 29½ | 2½ | 8 | 11½ |
| (*213) | 220 | 5 | 14½ | 19½ | 11 | 17 | 21½ |
| P&O | 650 | 57 | 69½ | 80½ | 8½ | 17½ | 28 |
| (*698) | 700 | 23½ | 38 | 53 | 22 | 39 | 51 |

| Series | | Calls Feb | May | Aug | Puts Feb | May | Aug |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prudentl | 750 | 63 | 90 | 110½ | 15 | 38½ | 50 |
| (*794) | 800 | 34 | 65 | 86 | 36 | 63 | 74½ |
| Rio Tinto | 700 | 46½ | 67½ | 85½ | 15 | 43 | 51½ |
| (*727) | 750 | 21 | 44½ | 64 | 38½ | 69 | 78 |
| Redland | 330 | 15 | 17 | 16½ | ½ | 1½ | 1 |
| (*344½) | 380 | ½ | 0½ | ½ | 16 | 16 | 16 |
| R-Royce | 200 | 14 | 22 | 27 | 7 | 13 | 16 |
| (*205½) | 220 | 6 | 15 | 18½ | 17½ | 23½ | 27½ |
| Tesco | 500 | 25½ | 40½ | 55½ | 11 | 26½ | 34 |
| (*510½) | 550 | 5½ | 19½ | 33½ | 42½ | 55 | 62 |
| Utd Bisc | 220 | 17½ | 22½ | 27 | 2 | 9½ | 12 |
| (*235) | 240 | 5 | 12 | 17 | 9½ | 19½ | 22 |

| Series | | Calls Mar | Jun | Sep | Puts Mar | Jun | Sep |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BG PLC | 306 | 30½ | 40½ | — | 8 | 15 | — |
| (*326) | 330 | 17 | 27½ | 34½ | 18 | 25 | 29½ |
| BSkyB | 390 | 35 | 50½ | 59½ | 15½ | 25 | 29 |
| (*410) | 420 | 20 | 35½ | 44½ | 30 | 40 | 43½ |
| Br Bio | 120 | 17 | 25½ | 31 | 10 | 18½ | 20 |
| (*126) | 130 | 12½ | 21½ | 27 | 15½ | 24 | 26 |
| Centrica | 90 | 19 | 22 | 25 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| (*107) | 100 | 11½ | 15 | 19 | 3½ | 6½ | 7½ |
| Dixons | 500 | 29 | 45½ | 54½ | 23 | 34 | 42½ |
| (*509½) | 550 | 11 | 25 | 34½ | 55½ | 63½ | 72 |
| EMI | 460 | 40 | 59 | 67½ | 18 | 29½ | 43 |
| (*480) | 492 | 24 | — | — | 34 | — | — |
| Granada | 950 | 60 | 88½ | 108 | 22½ | 38½ | 47½ |
| (*978) | 1000 | 31 | 61½ | 81 | 43½ | 60 | 70½ |
| GUS | 700 | 65½ | 87 | 103 | 20½ | 30½ | 38½ |
| (*738) | 750 | 38 | 61 | 77 | 42 | 53½ | 62 |
| Llyds TSB | 800 | 54 | 78½ | 97½ | 47 | 58 | 72 |
| (*806) | 850 | 32½ | 54 | 75 | 76½ | 86 | 99½ |
| Lonrho | 80 | 8½ | 13½ | 15 | 7½ | 9 | 10 |
| (*82) | 90 | 5 | 9½ | 11½ | 14 | 15½ | 16 |
| Norwich | 390 | 37½ | 45½ | 57½ | 10 | 20 | 22 |
| (*415) | 420 | 20½ | 29½ | 42 | 22 | 34½ | 36 |
| Orange | 260 | 22 | 32½ | 40½ | 9 | 15½ | 17 |
| (*271½) | 280 | 12½ | 22½ | 30½ | 18½ | 26 | 27 |
| Railtrck | 850 | 77½ | 109½ | 130 | 32 | 47½ | 58½ |
| (*892) | 900 | 50½ | 88 | 105½ | 55 | 71 | 82 |
| Scot Pwr | 500 | 43½ | 64 | 74 | 12½ | 22 | 31½ |
| (*527½) | 550 | 20 | 38 | 52½ | 35½ | 48 | 56 |
| Tarmac | 100 | 6 | 8½ | 12 | 4½ | 7 | 7½ |
| (*100½) | 110 | 2½ | 4½ | 8 | 11 | 13 | 13½ |
| Tomkins | 300 | 26½ | 37 | 42½ | 8 | 11½ | 15½ |
| (*322) | 330 | 10½ | 20½ | 26½ | 18½ | 24½ | 30 |
| Unilever | 475 | 35 | 45½ | — | 12 | 23 | — |
| (*482½) | 500 | 21 | 32½ | 44 | 23½ | 35 | 41½ |

January 15 Total: 45961 Calls: 23309 Puts: 22652

**FTSE INDEX (*5260)**

| Strike | Calls Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | Jun | Puts Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | Jun |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5100 | 173½ | 306½ | 362½ | 409 | 504 | — | 89½ | 149 | 183½ | 248 |
| 5150 | 123½ | 267 | 327 | 378½ | — | — | 101 | 165 | 203 | — |
| 5200 | 73½ | 229½ | 297½ | 348½ | 441 | — | 114 | 184 | 223½ | 284 |
| 5250 | 23½ | 198 | 266 | 318 | — | — | 129½ | 203½ | 244 | — |
| 5300 | — | 166 | 234 | 288½ | 378 | 31 | 152 | 223½ | 265 | 323½ |
| 5350 | — | 134 | 200 | 256½ | — | 81 | 174½ | 244½ | 286½ | — |
| 5400 | — | 110 | 176 | 234½ | 319 | 131 | 203½ | 272½ | 314 | 368½ |
| 5450 | — | 87 | 153 | 213½ | — | 181 | 234 | 301½ | 343 | — |

January 16 Total: 12187 Calls: 6833 Puts: 5354 *Underlying security price

## LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

| | Period | Open | High | Low | Sett | Vol |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Long Gilt | Mar 98 | 123-11 | 123-18 | 123-06 | 123-10 | 63211 |
| Previous open interest 187874 | Jun 98 | | | | 107-08 | 0 |
| German Govt Bond (Bund) | Mar 98 | 106.11 | 106.37 | 106.04 | 106.30 | 181079 |
| Previous open interest 265541 | Jun 98 | 105.57 | 105.73 | 105.57 | 105.73 | 790 |
| German Govt Bond (Bobl) | Mar 98 | 104.95 | 105.21 | 104.95 | 105.17 | 1139 |
| Previous open interest 34320 | Jun 98 | | | | 104.73 | 0 |
| Italian Govt Bond (BTP) | Mar 98 | 117.10 | 117.15 | 116.72 | 116.85 | 85643 |
| Previous open interest 136177 | Jun 98 | 116.40 | 116.45 | 116.20 | 116.30 | 2490 |
| Japanese Govt Bond (JGB) | Mar 98 | 129.85 | 129.85 | 129.61 | 129.64 | 2236 |
| | Jun 98 | 129.23 | 129.23 | 129.03 | 129.04 | 297 |
| Three Mth Sterling | Mar 98 | 92.44 | 92.44 | 92.40 | 92.42 | 23815 |
| | Jun 98 | 92.54 | 92.54 | 92.46 | 92.48 | 49812 |
| Previous open interest 769910 | Sep 98 | 92.72 | 92.72 | 92.63 | 92.64 | 27832 |
| Three Mth Euromark | Mar 98 | 96.34 | 96.39 | 96.33 | 96.37 | 39128 |
| Previous open interest 1805606 | Jun 98 | 96.19 | 96.26 | 96.19 | 96.25 | 59156 |
| Three Mth Eurolira | Mar 98 | 94.39 | 94.42 | 94.34 | 94.35 | 42509 |
| Previous open interest 613481 | Jun 98 | 95.15 | 95.16 | 95.08 | 95.08 | 46984 |
| Three Mth Euroswiss | Mar 98 | 98.41 | 98.45 | 98.39 | 98.44 | 9385 |
| Previous open interest 146048 | Jun 98 | 98.29 | 98.32 | 98.28 | 98.31 | 6304 |
| Three Mth ECU | Mar 98 | 95.64 | 95.68 | 95.64 | 95.66 | 843 |
| Previous open interest 34380 | Jun 98 | 95.66 | 95.70 | 95.66 | 95.70 | 653 |
| FTSE 100 | Mar 98 | 5215.0 | 5335.0 | 5212.0 | 5312.0 | 12451 |
| Previous open interest 42 | Jun 98 | | | | 5367.0 | 0 |

## MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7¼ Finance Hse 8

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 6¼ Week fixed: 7⅛

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅞ ; 3 mth 6⅞ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅞ ; 3 mth: 6⅞ .

| | 1 mth | 2 mth | 3 mth | 6 mth | 12 mth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prime Bank Bills (Dis): | 7⅛-7¼ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7¼ | 7⅛-7¼ | |
| Sterling Money Rates: | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7¼ | 7⅛-7⅛ |
| Interbank: | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7¼ | 7⅛-7⅛ |

Overnight: open 7¼, close 6¼ .

| | 1 mth | 2 mth | 3 mth | 6 mth | 12 mth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Local Authority Deps | 7¼ | n/a | 7¼ | 7⅛ | 7⅛ |
| Sterling CDs: | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ |
| Dollar CDs: | 5.52 | n/a | 5.52 | 5.54 | 5.59 |
| Building Society CDs: | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ | 7⅛-7⅛ |

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £719m allotted, £100m; Bids: £98.285% received: 90%; Last week: £98.28% received: 75%; Avge rate £6.8748% last wk £6.8930%: Next week: £100m.

## EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

| Currency | 7 day | 1 mth | 3 mth | 6 mth | Call |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dollar: | 5⅝-5½ | 5⅝-5½ | 5⅝-5½ | 5⅝-5½ | 5¼-4¾ |
| Deutschemark: | 3⅛-2⅞ | 3¼-3⅛ | 3⅜-3¼ | 3½-3⅜ | 4-3 |
| French Franc: | 3½-3¼ | 3½-3⅜ | 3⅝-3½ | 3⅝-3½ | 3½-2¾ |
| Swiss Franc: | 1½-1 | 1⅝-1½ | 1⅝-1½ | 1⅝-1½ | 1½-½ |
| Yen: | ½-¼ | ½-¼ | ½-¼ | ½-¼ | 1-par |

## GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $287.70-288.00 Close: $289.60-290.10 High: $294.00-294.50 Low: $286.00-286.50 AM: $287.35 PM: $290.00

Krugerrand: $294.00-296.00 (£182.00-184.00)

Platinum: $379.00 (£232.35) Silver: $5.86 (£3.585) Palladium: $227.00 (£139.20)

## STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

| Mkt Rates for January 16 | Range | Close | 1 month | 3 month |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amsterdam | 3.3540-3.3718 | 3.3689-3.3716 | 1½-1¼pr | 3½-3¼pr |
| Brussels | 61.380-61.770 | 61.685-61.766 | 24-19pr | 64-57pr |
| Copenhagen | 11.336-11.401 | 11.386-11.397 | ⅛-¼pr | 1-¼pr |
| Dublin | 1.1805-1.1869 | 1.1830-1.1854 | 16-9pr | 51-44pr |
| Frankfurt | 2.9761-2.9924 | 2.9897-2.9924 | 1-¼pr | 2⅞-2⅝pr |
| Lisbon | 304.22-306.13 | 305.66-305.99 | ¼-¼pr | ¼-¼pr |
| Madrid | 252.18-253.62 | 253.36-253.58 | 62-51pr | 184-165pr |
| Milan | 2930.0-2947.8 | 2944.4-2947.5 | 37-21pr | 113-91pr |
| Montreal | 2.3334-2.3468 | 2.3503-2.3524 | 0.63-0.57pr | 1.15-1.07pr |
| New York | 1.6288-1.6375 | 1.6360-1.6375 | 0.265-0.245pr | 0.775-0.745pr |
| Oslo | 12.267-12.349 | 12.334-12.349 | ⅛-⅛pr | 1⅛-1pr |
| Paris | 9.9720-10.029 | 10.013-10.022 | 3⅛-3⅛pr | 9⅛-9⅛pr |
| Stockholm | 13.048-13.139 | 13.117-13.132 | ¼-¼pr | ¼-¼pr |
| Tokyo | 209.25-211.27 | 211.03-211.27 | 1⅛-1¼pr | 3⅞-3⅝pr |
| Vienna | 20.936-21.051 | 21.031-21.051 | ¾-¼pr | 2⅛-1⅞pr |
| Zurich | 2.4334-2.4443 | 2.4434-2.4464 | 1⅛-1⅛pr | 3⅛-3⅛pr |

Source: Extel · Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

## DOLLAR RATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Australia | 1.5105-1.5117 |
| Austria | 12.83-12.84 |
| Belgium (Com) | 37.69-37.73 |
| Canada | 1.4340-1.4345 |
| Denmark | 6.9584-6.9604 |
| France | 6.1208-6.1228 |
| Germany | 1.8270-1.8275 |
| Hong Kong | 7.7350-7.7370 |
| Ireland | 1.3816-1.3836 |
| Italy | 1798.75-1799.75 |
| Japan | 128.59-128.69 |
| Malaysia | 4.1700-4.1795 |
| Netherlands | 2.0588-2.0598 |
| Norway | 7.5340-7.5360 |
| Portugal | 186.79-186.89 |
| Singapore | 1.7310-1.7330 |
| Spain | 154.83-154.93 |
| Sweden | 8.0170-8.0220 |
| Switzerland | 1.4920-1.4930 |

## OTHER STERLING

| | |
|---|---|
| Argentina peso* | 1.6340-1.6367 |
| Australia dollar | 2.4696-2.4722 |
| Bahrain dinar | 0.6070-0.6210 |
| Brazil real* | 1.8277-1.8306 |
| China yuan | 13.352-13.652 |
| Cyprus pound | 0.8620-0.8810 |
| Finland markka | 8.9625-9.1035 |
| Greece drachma | 465.25-475.75 |
| Hong Kong dollar | 12.6552-12.6624 |
| India rupee | 65.03-66.33 |
| Indonesia rupiah | n/a |
| Kuwait dinar KD | 0.4930-0.5040 |
| Malaysia ringgit | 6.8225-6.8402 |
| New Zealand dollar | 2.7768-2.7810 |
| Pakistan rupee | 70.20 Buy |
| Saudi Arabia riyal | 5.8650-6.0000 |
| Singapore dollar | 2.8321-2.8362 |
| S Africa rand (com) | 8.0280-8.1970 |
| U A E dirham | 5.9150-6.0510 |

*Barclays Treasury • Lloyds Bank*

## FTSE VOLUMES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3i | 789 | Land Secs | 2,600 |
| AMVESCAP | 644 | Legal & Gn | 3,300 |
| ASDA Gp | 29,100 | Lloyds TSB | 9,400 |
| Abbey Ntl | 2,600 | LucasVarity | 3,800 |
| Allnce & Leic | 3,000 | Marks Spr | 4,400 |
| Allied Dom | 1,900 | NatWst Bk | 1,800 |
| AB Foods | 495 | Nat Grid | 3,700 |
| BAA | 2,000 | Nat Power | 6,900 |
| BAT Inds | 6,400 | Next | 1,300 |
| BG | 5,200 | Norwich Un | 5,100 |
| BOC | 4,300 | Nycmd Amer | 486 |
| BP | 11,100 | Orange | 4,900 |
| BSkyB | 4,800 | P & O | 1,500 |
| BTR | 27,500 | Pearson | 1,200 |
| BT | 29,600 | PowerGen | 4,300 |
| Bk of Scot | 7,100 | Prudential | 5,900 |
| Barclays | 4,100 | Railtrack | 3,700 |
| Bass | 2,300 | Rank Group | 1,600 |
| Billiton | 4,500 | Reckitt Col | 764 |
| Blue Circle | 2,500 | Reed Intl | 3,300 |
| Boots | 4,000 | Rentokil | 5,700 |
| BAe | 3,300 | Reuters | 5,000 |
| BA | 4,900 | Rio Tinto | 10,000 |
| Brit Energy | 10,900 | Rolls Royce | 12,400 |
| British Land | 514 | Royal & Sun | 1,500 |
| Brit Steel | 15,100 | Royal Bk Sct | 1,800 |
| Cable Wire | 2,900 | Safeway | 4,000 |
| Cadbury | 3,800 | Sainsbury | 4,000 |
| Carlton Cms | 4,200 | Schroders | 200 |
| Centrica | 10,400 | Scot & New | 9,100 |
| Cm Union | 2,500 | Scot Power | 2,000 |
| Diageo | 12,700 | Svrn Trent | 864 |
| Dixons | 3,500 | Shell Trans | 12,300 |
| EMI | 2,700 | Siebe | 4,500 |
| Energy Gp | 534 | SmKl Bch | 7,500 |
| Enterpr Oil | 855 | Smiths Inds | 590 |
| GKN | 619 | Std Chartd | 3,500 |
| GRE | 1,300 | Sun Life | 539 |
| GUS | 2,300 | Tesco | 3,800 |
| Gen Acc | 584 | Thames W | 1,500 |
| Gen Elec | 18,300 | Tomkins | 4,800 |
| Glaxo Well | 4,900 | Unilever | 10,800 |
| Granada | 3,900 | Utd Utilities | 2,700 |
| HSBC | 2,700 | Utd News | 2,800 |
| Halifax | 6,200 | Vodafone | 13,200 |
| Hays | 708 | Whitbread | 943 |
| ICI | 1,900 | Williams | 2,500 |
| Kingfisher | 3,000 | Wolseley | 2,900 |
| LASMO | 3,500 | Woolwich | 2,900 |
| Ladbroke | 4,500 | Zeneca | 2,400 |

## WALL STREET

| | Jan 16 midday | Jan 15 close |
|---|---|---|
| AMP Inc | 37¼ | 38⅛ |
| AMR Corp | 133¼ | 130⅛ |
| AT & T | 65⅛ | 66 |
| Abbott Labs | 70¼ | 69⅛ |
| Advanced Micro | 17¼ | 18⅛ |
| Aetna Life | 72⅛ | 71¼ |
| Ahmanson (HF) | 58¼ | 57¼ |
| Air Prod & Chem | 78⅛ | 77⅛ |
| AirTouch Comm | 43 | 42⅛ |
| Albertson's | 46¼ | 45⅛ |
| Alcan Aluminm | 27¼ | 26⅛ |
| Allied Signal | 36⅛ | 36¼ |
| Alum Co of Am | 65⅛ | 65⅛ |
| Amerada Hess | 53⅛ | 52¼ |
| AEP | 50⅛ | 50¼ |
| Amer Express | 82¼ | 81¼ |
| Amer Genl Corp | 55¼ | 54⅛ |
| Amer Home Pr | 81⅛ | 81¼ |
| Amer Intl | 101⅛ | 100⅛ |
| Amer Stores | 22 | 21¼ |
| Amer Standard | 39¼ | 39⅛ |
| Ameritech | 84⅛ | 83¼ |
| Amgen | 49 | 49 |
| Amoco | 83¼ | 81¼ |
| Andrew Corp | 23⅛ | 21¼ |
| Anheuser-Busch | 43⅛ | 44⅛ |
| Apple Computer | 19⅛ | 19⅛ |
| Archer Daniels | 22 | 22 |
| Armco | 4⅛ | 4⅛ |
| Armstrong Wrld | 72⅛ | 71¼ |
| Asarco | 21¼ | 21⅛ |
| Atl Richfield | 78¼ | 76¼ |
| Atmel Corp | 16¼ | 17¼ |
| Auto Data Pro | 59¼ | 59⅛ |
| Avery Dennison | 42⅛ | 42¼ |
| Avon Products | 57⅛ | 56⅛ |
| Baker Hughes | 38¼ | 36¼ |
| Baltim Gas & El | 32⅛ | 32¼ |
| Banc One | 54 | 52⅛ |
| BankAmerica | 69 | 68⅛ |
| Bank of NY | 55¼ | 54¼ |
| Bankers Tr NY | 104¼ | 102¼ |
| Bausch & Lomb | 40⅛ | 39¼ |
| Baxter Intl | 51¼ | 50⅛ |
| Betn Dickinsn | 54¼ | 52⅛ |
| Bell Atlantic | 89¼ | 89 |
| BellSouth | 58⅛ | 57⅛ |
| Best Foods | 58⅛ | 57⅛ |
| Black & Decker | 44⅛ | 43⅛ |
| Block (H&R) | 42⅛ | 41¼ |
| Boeing | 43¼ | 44¼ |
| Boise Cascade | 29 | 28⅛ |
| Boston Scien | 48⅛ | 43⅛ |
| Bristol Myrs Sq | 92⅛ | 92¼ |
| Browning Ferris | 36⅛ | 36⅛ |
| Brunswick | [illegible] | [illegible] |
| Burlington Nthn | 86¼ | 86¼ |
| CMS Energy Corp | 44¼ | 43⅛ |
| CSX | 53 | 52¼ |
| CBS Corp | 30 | 30⅛ |
| Campbell Soup | 54⅛ | 53⅛ |
| Carolina Pwr | 41¼ | 41⅛ |
| Case Corp | 58¼ | 57¼ |
| Caterpillar | 46¼ | 45¼ |
| Central & SW | 26⅛ | 26¼ |
| Champion Intl | 45⅛ | 46 |
| Chase Manhat | 105⅛ | 107⅛ |
| Chevron Corp | 76¼ | 76⅛ |
| Chrysler | 34¼ | 33⅛ |
| Chubb Corp | 75¼ | 75⅛ |
| Cigna Corp | 172¼ | 170⅛ |
| Citicorp | 120⅛ | 117⅛ |
| Clorox | 77⅛ | 77 |
| Coastal Corp | 56¼ | 55¼ |
| Coca Cola | 64⅛ | 63⅛ |
| Coca Cola Ent | 36¼ | 35¼ |
| Colgate-Palm | 70¼ | 69⅛ |
| Columbia Gas | 77 | 76¼ |
| ColumbiaHCA | 27¼ | 27⅛ |
| Compaq Comp | 58¼ | 58⅛ |
| Comp Ass Int | 50⅛ | 49⅛ |
| Conagra | 32⅛ | 32¼ |
| Cons Edison | 39⅛ | 39¼ |
| Cons Nat Gas | 55⅛ | 55¼ |
| Cooper Inds | 50⅛ | 49⅛ |
| Corestates | 78¼ | 78 |
| Corning Inc | 37¼ | 37¼ |
| C'wide Credit | 44¼ | 43¼ |
| Crestar Finl | 52⅛ | 52⅛ |
| Crown Cork | 49¼ | 47⅛ |
| Dana Corp | 50⅛ | 49¼ |
| Dayton Hudson | 70⅛ | 69¼ |
| Deere | 52⅛ | 51¼ |
| Delta Air Lines | 117⅛ | 115⅛ |
| Deluxe Corp | 33¼ | 33⅛ |
| Digital Equip | 40⅛ | 39¼ |
| Dillard Dept St | 34 | 33¼ |
| Disney (Walt) | 98¼ | 98⅛ |
| Dominion Res | 40⅛ | 40¼ |
| Donelley (RR) | 35⅛ | 35⅛ |
| Dover Corp | 34⅛ | 34¼ |
| Dow Chemical | 92¼ | 92¼ |
| Dow Jones | 51¼ | 51 |
| Dresser | 37⅛ | 36 |
| Duke Power | 54⅛ | 54¼ |
| Dun & Bradstreet | 32 | 32 |
| Du Pont | 55⅛ | 54⅛ |
| Eastman Chem | 59 | 58¼ |
| Eastman Kodak | 58¼ | 58⅛ |
| Eaton Corp | 92⅛ | 90⅛ |

| | Jan 16 midday | Jan 15 close |
|---|---|---|
| Edison Intl | 26¼ | 26¼ |
| Elect Data Sys | 41⅛ | 42⅛ |
| Emerson Elec | 61⅛ | 61⅛ |
| Engelhard Corp | 17⅛ | 17¼ |
| Enron Corp | 40⅛ | 39⅛ |
| Entergy | 28¼ | 27⅛ |
| Ethyl Corp | 7¼ | 7¼ |
| Exxon | 60⅛ | 59¼ |
| FMC Corp | 63⅛ | 62¼ |
| FPL Group | 56¼ | 56¼ |
| Federal Express | 65¼ | 63⅛ |
| Fifth Third Banc | 76¼ | 75⅛ |
| Fleet Finl Grp | 71⅛ | 72 |
| Fluor Corp | 39⅛ | 39⅛ |
| Ford Motor | 47⅛ | 48¼ |
| Fort James | 39¼ | 38⅛ |
| Fortune Brands | 37⅛ | 37¼ |
| Franklin Res | 41⅛ | 82¼ |
| GTE Corp | 51¼ | 50⅛ |
| Gannett | 58⅛ | 57⅛ |
| Gap Inc Del | 38⅛ | 38¼ |
| Gateway 2000 | 33⅛ | 33¼ |
| Gen Dynamics | 85¼ | 85⅛ |
| Gen Electric | 74¼ | 72⅛ |
| Gen Mills | 72¼ | 71⅛ |
| Gen Motors | 58⅛ | 58¼ |
| Gen Reinsurance | 209⅛ | 208⅛ |
| Gen Signal | 39¼ | 39⅛ |
| Genuine Parts | 33¼ | 33¼ |
| Georgia Pac | 55⅛ | 55¼ |
| Gillette | 101¼ | 100⅛ |
| Glaxo Welc ADR | 51⅛ | 49⅛ |
| Goodrich (BF) | 40¼ | 39⅛ |
| Goodyear Tire | 62⅛ | 61 |
| Great Lakes | 44¼ | 43⅛ |
| Halliburton | 46 | 44¼ |
| Harcourt General | 52⅛ | 52⅛ |
| Heinz (HJ) | 54⅛ | 53⅛ |
| Hercules | 48⅛ | 47⅛ |
| Hershey Foods | 61⅛ | 61¼ |
| Hewlett Packard | 64¼ | 64 |
| Hilton Hotels | 30¼ | 29⅛ |
| Home Depot | 59¼ | 59⅛ |
| Homestake Mng | 9 | 8⅛ |
| Honeywell | 68⅛ | 67¼ |
| Household Intl | 124¼ | 122⅛ |
| Houston Inds | 25¼ | 25¼ |
| Humana | 20 | 19⅛ |
| ITT Corp | 81¼ | 81¼ |
| Ikon Office | 27⅛ | 27⅛ |
| Illinois Tool | 56¼ | 54¼ |
| Illinova | 29⅛ | 29¼ |
| INCO | 15⅛ | 15¼ |
| Ingersoll Rand | 39¼ | 38¼ |
| Inland Steel | 18¼ | 18⅛ |
| Intel Corp | 74⅛ | 75⅛ |
| IBM | 104⅛ | 103¼ |
| Intl Flav & Fr | 45¼ | 45⅛ |
| Intl Paper | 42¼ | 42 |
| Jhnsn & Jhnsn | 67¼ | 68⅛ |
| Kellogg | 49¼ | 49¼ |
| Kerr-McGee | 62¼ | 59⅛ |
| Kimberly-Clark | 51⅛ | 50¼ |
| Kmart | 10⅛ | 11 |
| Knight-Ridder | 55¼ | 55⅛ |
| Lilly (Eli) | 67 | 67¼ |
| Limited Inc | 26⅛ | 26⅛ |
| Lincoln Nat | 74¼ | 73⅛ |
| Litton | 56¼ | 55¼ |
| Liz Claiborne | 40¼ | 38⅛ |
| Lockheed Martin | 99⅛ | 99⅛ |
| Louisiana Pac | 18⅛ | 17¼ |
| MCI Comm | 43⅛ | 43⅛ |
| Manpower Inc | 34¼ | 33¼ |
| Marriott Int | 65⅛ | 65⅛ |
| Marsh & McLen | 72¼ | 71⅛ |
| Masco Corp | 51 | 51 |
| May Dept St | 51⅛ | 51¼ |
| Maytag Corp | 37⅛ | 37¼ |
| McDonalds | 47¼ | 46⅛ |
| McGraw Hill | 73⅛ | 73¼ |
| Mead Corp | 29¼ | 28¼ |
| [illegible] | 34¼ | 34⅛ |
| Medtronic | 47⅛ | 45¼ |
| Mellon Bk | 60¼ | 58⅛ |
| Merck Inc | 110⅛ | 108⅛ |
| Mercury Fin | 0¼ | 0¼ |
| Merrill Lynch | 64⅛ | 65 |
| Microsoft | 134¼ | 132⅛ |
| Minnesota Mine | 83 | 82¼ |
| Mirage Resorts | 24¼ | 24¼ |
| Mobil Corp | 69⅛ | 69⅛ |
| Monsanto | 41⅛ | 40⅛ |
| Morgan (JP) | 107⅛ | 109¼ |
| Motorola Inc | 56 | 55¼ |
| Mylan Labs | 19⅛ | 20¼ |
| Natl Semi | 24⅛ | 24¼ |
| Natl Service Ind | 50 | 49 |
| Navistar Int | 25¼ | 25¼ |
| NY Times A | 64⅛ | 65⅛ |
| Newmont Mng | 27 | 26 |
| Nike B | 41¼ | 41¼ |
| NL Industries | 16⅛ | 16¼ |
| Nordstrom | 45¼ | [illegible] |
| Norfolk Sthrn | 30⅛ | 30⅛ |
| Nthn State Pwr | 55⅛ | 54⅛ |
| Norwest Corp | 37¼ | 37 |
| Occidental Pet | 27⅛ | 27 |
| Office Depot | 23⅛ | 23¼ |
| Oracle | 19¼ | 19¼ |

| | Jan 16 midday | Jan 15 close |
|---|---|---|
| Oryx Energy Co | 24¼ | 23¼ |
| Owens Corning | 27⅛ | 27⅛ |
| PPG Industries | 55⅛ | 55⅛ |
| PMI Group | 70¼ | 70¼ |
| PNC Bank | 53 | 51⅛ |
| PP&L Res | 23¼ | 23¼ |
| Paccar Inc | 50¼ | 49¼ |
| Pacificorp | 24¼ | 24¼ |
| Pac Enterprises | 37 | 36⅛ |
| PaineWebber | 31⅛ | 30¼ |
| Pall Corp | 21⅛ | 21⅛ |
| Parker Hannifin | 46¼ | 48⅛ |
| Peco Energy | 23¼ | 23⅛ |
| Penney (JC) | 58¼ | 58⅛ |
| Pennzoil | 65¼ | 64⅛ |
| Pepsico | 36⅛ | 36⅛ |
| Pfizer | 76¼ | 76 |
| Pharm & Upjhn | 35¼ | 35¼ |
| Phelps Dodge | 61⅛ | 61⅛ |
| Philip Morris | 45⅛ | 45¼ |
| Phillips Pet | 45¼ | 44¼ |
| Pitney Bowes | 90¼ | 89⅛ |
| Polaroid | 41¼ | 41¼ |
| Procter & Gmbl | 79¼ | 79⅛ |
| Providian | 45⅛ | 45¼ |
| Pub Serv E & G | 31¼ | 31⅛ |
| Quaker Oats | 52⅛ | 51⅛ |
| Ralston Purina | 91¼ | 90⅛ |
| Raychem Corp | 38 | 38¼ |
| Reebok Intl | 29 | 29⅛ |
| Reliastar Fin | 41¼ | 40⅛ |
| Reynolds Metals | 56 | 54⅛ |
| Rockwell Intl | 51¼ | 51¼ |
| Rohm & Haas | 84¼ | 83⅛ |
| Royal Dutch | 51⅛ | 50⅛ |
| Rubbermaid | 26 | 25⅛ |
| SBC Comms | 74⅛ | 73⅛ |
| Safeco Corp | 47¼ | 47¼ |
| St Paul's Cos | 78¼ | 78 |
| Sara Lee Corp | 54¼ | 56⅛ |
| Schering Plough | 68¼ | 67¼ |
| Schlumberger | 76⅛ | 74¼ |
| Seagram | 34¼ | 33⅛ |
| Sears Roebuck | 45⅛ | 45¼ |
| Shell Trans | 40¼ | 40¼ |
| Sherwin Wllms | 27⅛ | 27⅛ |
| Silicon Graphics | 11¼ | 11¼ |
| Snap-On Tools | 40¼ | 40⅛ |
| Southern Co | 25⅛ | 25⅛ |
| Southtrust | 56⅛ | 56 |
| Sprint Corp | 59¼ | 58¼ |
| Stanley Works | 44¼ | 45⅛ |
| Sun Company | 41¼ | 41¼ |
| Sun Microsys | 44¼ | 43⅛ |
| Suntrust | 69¼ | 68⅛ |
| Supervalu | 42¼ | 41⅛ |
| Synovus Fin | 31¼ | 31¼ |
| Sysco Corp | 45¼ | 45 |
| TRW Inc | 52⅛ | 51¼ |
| TIG Hldgs | 32⅛ | 32⅛ |
| Tandy Corp | 34¼ | 34 |
| Temple Inland | 52 | 50¼ |
| Tenet Healthcare | 34⅛ | 34¼ |
| Tenneco | 37 | 36⅛ |
| Texaco | 54¼ | 53¼ |
| Texas Inst | 45¼ | 45¼ |
| Texas Utilities | 42⅛ | 41⅛ |
| Textron | 58⅛ | 58¼ |
| Thermo Elect | 40¼ | 40¼ |
| Time Warner | 60¼ | 59¼ |
| Times-Mirror A | 61 | 59⅛ |
| Timken | 33⅛ | 33⅛ |
| Torchmark | 42¼ | 42 |
| Toys R Us | 27⅛ | 26⅛ |
| Transamerica | 107¼ | 106¼ |
| Travelers | 50¼ | 49¼ |
| Tribune | 61⅛ | 60⅛ |
| UST Inc | 35 | 35¼ |
| US Bancorp | 109¼ | 108¼ |
| UAL | 89⅛ | 87¼ |
| Unitrin | 61¼ | 61¼ |
| US Inds | 27⅛ | 27¼ |
| US West Comm | 47⅛ | 46⅛ |
| US West Media | 29¼ | 28⅛ |
| USAirways Group | 62⅛ | 60⅛ |
| USX Marathon | 33 | 32¼ |
| Unicom | 31⅛ | 30⅛ |
| Unilever NV | 59¼ | 57¼ |
| Union Camp | 54⅛ | 53¼ |
| Union Carbide | 41¼ | 41¼ |
| Union Pacific | 60 | 59⅛ |
| Unisys Corp | 15¼ | 15¼ |
| USF&G Corp | 21¼ | 21¼ |
| United Tech | 70⅛ | 70¼ |
| Unocal Corp | 36¼ | 35¼ |
| VF Corp | 45⅛ | 45¼ |
| Wal-Mart Stores | 40¼ | 39⅛ |
| Warner-Lambert | 129⅛ | 127⅛ |
| Waste Mngmt | 24¼ | 23¼ |
| Wells Fargo | 321⅛ | 317⅛ |
| Weyerhaeuser | 46⅛ | 45⅛ |
| Whirlpool | 54⅛ | 54¼ |
| Whitman | 25¼ | 25¼ |
| Winn Dixie | 45⅛ | 44¼ |
| Witco Corp | 39⅛ | 39⅛ |
| Woolworth | 19⅛ | 19¼ |
| Wrigley (Wm) Jr | 77¼ | 76 |
| Xerox | 71⅛ | 70⅛ |
| Xilinx Inc | 36⅛ | 36¼ |

## NEWS

### Tragic love story revealed in verse

■ The Poet Laureate, Ted Hughes, today breaks a 35-year silence over the life and suicide of his first wife, Sylvia Plath. In an extraordinary verse narrative, which begins on page 18 and will be continued in *The Times* next week, Hughes gives his account of one of the century's most celebrated and tragic love stories. The existence of *Birthday Letters* has been among the best-kept literary secrets ..... **Pages 1, 18, 19, 22, 23**

### Concern over 'designer baby' clinics

■ The government watchdog on fertility treatments has ordered an urgent report into the ethics of a pioneering technique that can guarantee healthy babies by diagnosing faulty embryos. Clinics can exploit parents by charging up to £3,000 ..... **Page 1**

### Vicar convicted

Vicar Michael Golightly, 54, was jailed for five years for wounding his wife with a hammer .... **Page 1**

### Curb on pay rises

Ministers have decided to cut pay awards to 1.3 million doctors, teachers, nurses in a move risking a serious rift ..... **Page 2**

### To Cambridge at 14

Alexander Faludy, 14, who is so dyslexic he can barely write, has become the youngest person to win a place at Cambridge University this century ..... **Page 3**

### Pupil 'was abused'

A pupil who claims she was raped by two ten-year-old classmates suffered repeated sexual abuse as a younger child ..... **Page 5**

### Spencer rejected

The European Commission of Human Rights rejected Earl Spencer's attempt to take the Government to court over press harassment ..... **Page 6**

### Rapist condemned

Rapist Milton Brown who humiliated his two victims in court was jailed for 21 years ..... **Page 7**

### Role for anchorman

Television presenter Trevor Phillips threw his hat into the ring to become London's first mayor and Britain's most high-profile black politician ..... **Page 12**

### Fear of war

Israeli and Palestinian leaders are preparing war plans that could transform the region into a new Bosnia if peace fails ..... **Page 16**

### Battle order

Britain ordered *HMS Invincible* to join two American battle groups in the Gulf because of the latest standoff with Iraq ..... **Page 17**

### No laughing matter

ITV is to copy America's system of producing comedies such as *Friends* in an attempt to end the "sitcom crisis" ..... **Page 20**

### Great escape ends for Tamworth Two

■ Ten days after fleeing for their lives, the pursuit of the Tamworth Two had grown from £50 of pork into £15,000 of much-prized pig. One of the pair was caught by *Daily Mail* reporters who claimed exclusivity; the other had to be tranquillised before it was allowed to meet the press pack ..... **Page 1**

ASHLEY COOMBES



The Tamworth trotter. Sundance, on the run for more than a week, is finally taken into custody after being sedated with a tranquilliser gun

**NEWS FEATURES**

**Valerie Grove:** Gerry Robinson, the new chairman of the Arts Council, has made a career out of sorting out messes ..... **Page 21**

**The Aids scourge:** People with Aids are losing £120 a week disability benefit because new drug treatments are giving them their health back ..... **Pages 10-11**

**High and mighty:** Donald Trump's penthouse with views of every landmark in Manhattan is set to become the most expensive flat rented in America and possibly the world ..... **Page 8**

**OPINION**

**Democracy's defender:** Like the lotus leaf, the single currency is a flawed escape from reality, not an answer to life's challenges ..... **Page 23**

**Laureate letters:** Ted Hughes has been the silent man. Now he is so no longer ..... **Page 23**

**Vips in clover:** "Someone must have squealed," grunted Sundance Pig ..... **Page 23**

**LETTERS**

Curriculum change: caring for disabled children: priests in the Lords: cost of Diana's lawyers: older men with younger partners ..... **Page 23**

**COLUMNS**

**Simon Jenkins:** England's provincial museums may not quite equal the massed treasures of the country houses, but they are owned by and for the public ..... **Page 22**

**Andrew Motion:** Ted Hughes's greatest book emerged from his long silence about Sylvia Plath ..... **Page 22**

**OBITUARIES**

**Ernest Grindley,** Battle of the Somme survivor: **John Hinde,** photographer and circus promoter: **Dominque de Menil,** arts patron and rights advocate ..... **Page 25**

**BUSINESS**

**Property:** Corporate investors are expected to spend up to £400 million on the residential sector ..... **Page 27**

**Retail slump:** Argos suffered the sharpest sales slowdown in its 24-year history over Christmas ..... **Page 27**

**Markets:** The FTSE 100 rose to 5,263.1. The pound rose to $1.6365 and to DM2.9905. The pound index closed at 105.1 ..... **Page 31**

**WEEKEND MONEY**

Mortgage misery: pensions: best savings rates: annuities: new Peps ..... **Pages 51-64**

**SPORT**

**Football:** Alan Shearer will be considered for selection by Newcastle against Bolton ..... **Page 33**

**Tennis:** Tim Henman reached the final of the Sydney International with a win over world No 2 Patrick Rafter ..... **Page 35**

**Cricket:** Alec Stewart was out in the third over as England struggled against Jamaica ..... **Page 41**

**Rugby union:** London Scottish said Federico Méndez played no part in the alleged ear-biting incident ..... **Page 40**

## SECTIONS

**the times magazine**

**Robert Carlyle:** The reluctant hero ..... **Page 18**
**Hunger pains:** North Korea's famine ..... **Page 24**
**Hit squad:** Britain's contract killers ..... **Page 38**
**Lunchtime:** What takes your fancy ..... **Page 64**
**Life stories:** Townshend's daughter ..... **Page 82**

**the times**

**Interview:** Petula Clark, CBE at 65 ..... **Page 6**
**Music:** The big album by Air ..... **Page 10**
**Books:** Decline of the literary magazine; the best-sellers ..... **Pages 14-21**
**Still life:** Portraits with feeling ..... **Page 24**
**Listings: Pages 26-43**

**WEEKEND**

**Out of time:** Crisis in our museums ..... **Pages 1, 2**
**Art attack:** Why philistines are good for arts ... **Page 2**
**Home life:** Teenage drug-taking ..... **Page 19**
**Travel:** Hong Kong: the Grenadines .... **Pages 23-31**
**AMERICAN ARTS:** A 16-page pullout

**Vision**

**Full seven-day radio and television guide**

**mge**

**Jokes, prizes, websites for our younger readers**

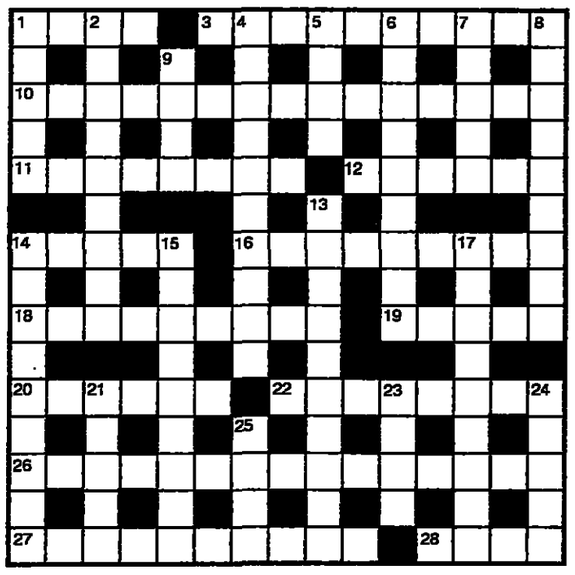
## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,691

*A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.*

Name/Address .....

.....

.....



**ACROSS**

1 Conceited youngster, a future skipper, possibly (4).
3 Water very quietly absorbed in part of body (5,5).
10 Promotion of number one (4-11).
11 A barrier to progress for some races (8).
12 One watched for a shot that delights a golfer (6).
14 Wade across one? Hardly! (5).
16 Reprimand from oriental king tolerated (7-2).
18 One person's tale is inaccurate about female politician (4,5).
19 No longer taxes people up North (5).
20 Mouse taken to guy (6).
22 Fellow's agitation describing dons (8).
26 It's said to be a careless error (4,2,3,6).
27 Book individual after arrest, finding part of skeleton (10).
28 Characters in front of queue, say, in dominant position (4).

**DOWN**

1 The type who bothers with duck sauce (5).
2 Eliminate European side at Lord's (6,3).
4 Liberal university in commitment that distributes power (10).
5 Times supporting a chap such as Douglas? (4).
6 Drinks provided in wild parties (9).
7 Fraudulent type raised charges by minimal amount (5).
8 Seen to run off between you and me (5,4).
9 Facts making American a little upset (4).
13 Disc that's likely to be hit soon after launch (4,6).
14 The airs that people put on! (4,5).
15 Ancient intriguing led to her death (9).
17 Model of chivalry pronounced the latest word? (9).
21 Hot and sick after getting cold like this (5).
23 Sort of memory that follows piano concert (4).
24 Penny each, possibly (5).
25 Objections raised in short piece (4).

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,685**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | O | S | E | | I | S | I | S | | T | O | P | U | P |
| E | | K | | B | A | N | | U | | A | | R | | |
| B | O | U | Q | U | E | T | | A | | I | N | T | R | E |
| U | | L | | S | | U | | P | | B | | T | | B |
| F | U | L | L | M | A | R | K | S | | R | H | Y | M | E |
| F | | | | A | | N | | H | | I | | L | | N |
| S | A | V | A | N | T | | W | O | O | D | W | I | N | D |
| | | I | | S | | E | | T | | G | | N | | |
| B | A | C | K | H | A | N | D | | R | E | C | E | S | S |
| E | | O | | G | | S | | W | | | | I | | |
| N | A | V | E | L | | O | N | T | H | E | B | A | L | L |
| E | | I | | R | | A | | L | | M | | E | | |
| F | I | R | E | D | O | G | | B | A | L | L | O | O | N |
| I | | A | | E | | L | | S | | U | | G | | |
| T | R | A | C | Y | | D | I | E | T | | U | R | G | E |

**Solution to Puzzle No 20,690**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | S | I | L | | I | N | C | U | R | S | I | O | N |
| E | | A | | U | | N | | A | | E | | N | | E |
| A | L | M | A | M | A | T | E | R | | C | L | E | A | R |
| U | | U | | M | | E | | G | | O | | R | | V |
| M | A | R | I | E | A | N | T | O | I | N | E | T | T | E |
| O | | A | | S | | E | | O | | I | | | | |
| N | O | I | S | O | M | E | | S | P | I | N | A | C | H |
| D | | S | | | | T | | | | I | | | | |
| E | L | A | S | T | I | C | | S | T | E | P | S | O | N |
| | | I | | E | | R | | U | | P | | D | | |
| B | U | R | N | O | N | E | S | F | I | N | G | E | R | S |
| R | | P | | A | | F | | A | | C | | I | | |
| O | M | E | G | A | | T | R | I | C | K | L | I | N | G |
| A | | T | | O | | C | | E | | A | | H | | |
| D | I | S | C | H | A | R | G | E | | D | E | L | F | T |

**LAST WEEK'S WINNERS:** *T Gray, Weymouth, Dorset; J L Cope, London SW6; M Anderson, Cupar, Fife; M Watterson, Chesterfield, Derbyshire; Mr Frederick, Warlingham, Surrey.*

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1998. Published and printed and licensed for distribution in the UK and all other destination forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD. Incorporating T. P. O. Scotland and also printed at Kinfauns Road, Perth, Merseyside, Liverpool, telephone 0151-545 2901. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

**AA INFORMATION**

**Latest Road and Weather conditions**

| | |
|---|---|
| UK Weather- All regions | 0336 444 910 |
| UK Roads - All regions | 0336 401 410 |
| Inside M25 | 0336 401 746 |
| M25 and Link Roads | 0336 401 747 |
| National Motorways | 0336 401 748 |
| Continental Europe | 0336 401 910 |
| Channel crossing | 0336 401 388 |
| Motoring to Heathrow & Gatwick airports | 0336 407 505 |

**Weather by Fax** The Met. Office

Dial 0336 followed by area number from your fax

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| West Country | 416 336 | N Ireland | 416 341 |
| Wales | 416 335 | London | 416 342 |
| Midlands | 416 336 | | |
| East Anglia | 416 337 | National Satellite Weather picture | 416 397 |
| N West | 416 338 | | |
| N East | 416 339 | | |
| Scotland | 416 340 | | |

**Medlink Marine**
Inshore leisure forecast 416 398

**World City Weather** The Met. Office
153 destinations world wide
6 day forecast
by Phone dial 0336 411216
by Fax (index page) 0336 416333

**Motoring**

| | |
|---|---|
| Europe Country by Country | 0336 401 885 |
| European fuel costs | 0336 401 886 |
| French Motorways | 0336 401 887 |
| Seaport information | 0336 401 892 |
| Disneyland Paris | 0336 401 409 |
| Le Shuttle | 0336 401 895 |

**AA Car reports by fax**
new and used car reports from the AA menu of 195 cars 0336 416 399

Dial from your fax handset, you may have to set to poll receive mode

Automobile Association Developments Ltd, Norfolk House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke RG24 9NY

Calls are charged at 50p per minute at all times

**HOURS OF DARKNESS**

TODAY
Sun rises 7.52 am — Sun sets 4.21 pm
Moon sets 10.02 am — Moon rises 9.47 pm
Last quarter January 20
London 4.24 pm to 7.57 am
Bristol 4.14 pm to 8.07 am
Edinburgh 4.16 pm to 8.30 am
Manchester 4.23 pm to 8.14 am
Penzance 4.01 pm to 8.13 am

TOMORROW
Sun rises 7.51 am — Sun sets 4.22 pm
Moon rises *0.26 am — Moon rises *10.49 pm
Last quarter January 20
London 4.25 pm to 7.56 am
Bristol 4.15 pm to 8.06 am
Edinburgh 4.17 pm to 8.29 am
Manchester 4.24 pm to 8.13 am
Penzance 4.02 pm to 8.12 am

**HIGH TIDES**

| TODAY | AM | | PM | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aberdeen | 4.15 | 4.4 | | |
| Avonmouth | 9.36 | 9.8 | | |
| Belfast | 7.41 | 7.6 | | |
| Cardiff | 9.41 | 9.8 | | |
| Devonport | 6.03 | 5.8 | | |
| Dover | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Falmouth | 7.01 | 6.8 | | |
| Greenock | 5.56 | 5.8 | | |
| Harwich | 7.11 | 7.3 | | |
| Holyhead | 11.35 | 11.5 | | |
| Hull (Albert Dock) | 5.56 | 5.8 | | |
| Ilfracombe | 7.41 | 7.6 | | |
| Kyle of Lochalsh | 6.26 | 6.5 | | |
| Leith | 5.56 | 5.8 | | |
| Liverpool | 11.35 | 11.5 | | |
| London Bridge | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Lowestoft | 7.11 | 7.3 | | |
| Margate | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Milford Haven | 10.11 | 10.3 | | |
| Newlyn | 7.01 | 6.8 | | |
| Oban | 5.56 | 5.8 | | |
| Penzance | 7.01 | 6.8 | | |
| Portland | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Portsmouth | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Sheerness | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Southampton | 7.56 | 7.6 | | |
| Stornoway | 5.56 | 5.8 | | |
| Tees | 4.15 | 4.4 | | |
| Walton-on-Naze | 7.11 | 7.3 | | |

Times of high tide at Avonmouth, Dover, Falmouth, Holyhead, Liverpool, London Bridge, Milford Haven, Portland, Portsmouth, Sheerness, Southampton and Tees are GMT. Height in metres.

**HIGHEST & LOWEST**

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Fairoaks, Surrey and Tiree, Argyll 7C; lowest day max: -1C Glascote, Staffordshire; 4C Wainfleet, Lincs; highest sunshine: Shawbury, Shropshire and Tiree, Argyll 7.4 hours; lowest temp: -5C Braemar, Aberdeenshire.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up of 41.4% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1997

**FORECAST**

☐ **General:** most of England and Wales will have a dry day with some sunny spells. However, the extreme West will be cloudier and some drizzly rain is likely to affect the North West for a time. Scotland will have a cold day with the best of any sun in the North and East. The South and West will see patchy rain, snow on hills.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Cent S England, Midlands, E England, Channel Isles:** dry day with sunny spells after a frosty start. Light west to southwest wind. Max 8C (46F)

☐ **SW England, Wales:** dry with sunny periods after early frost, but becoming cloudier, especially over coast. Moderate southwest wind. Max 9C (46F).

☐ **NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Cent N England, NE England:** a little sunshine early but becoming cloudier during day with perhaps a little drizzle. Moderate southwest wind. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** mostly dry with some sunny spells in morning after frosty start, but increasing cloud could bring rain, sleet and hill snow to southern and western areas. Moderate northwest wind. Max 6C (43F)

☐ **SW Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** chilly with cloud gathering to bring patchy light rain, sleet and hill snow. Moderate south wind. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **N Ireland:** mostly dry, but rather cloudy and chilly. Perhaps a little drizzly rain edging in from north during afternoon. Freshening south to southwest wind. Max 9C (48F)

☐ **Republic of Ireland:** rather cloudy but mostly dry during daylight. Heavy rain spreading from West in evening. Wind southerly, moderate becoming strong. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **Outlook:** tomorrow unsettled and blustery with rain, snow in Scotland. Turning very cold next week with widespread night frost.

**AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY**

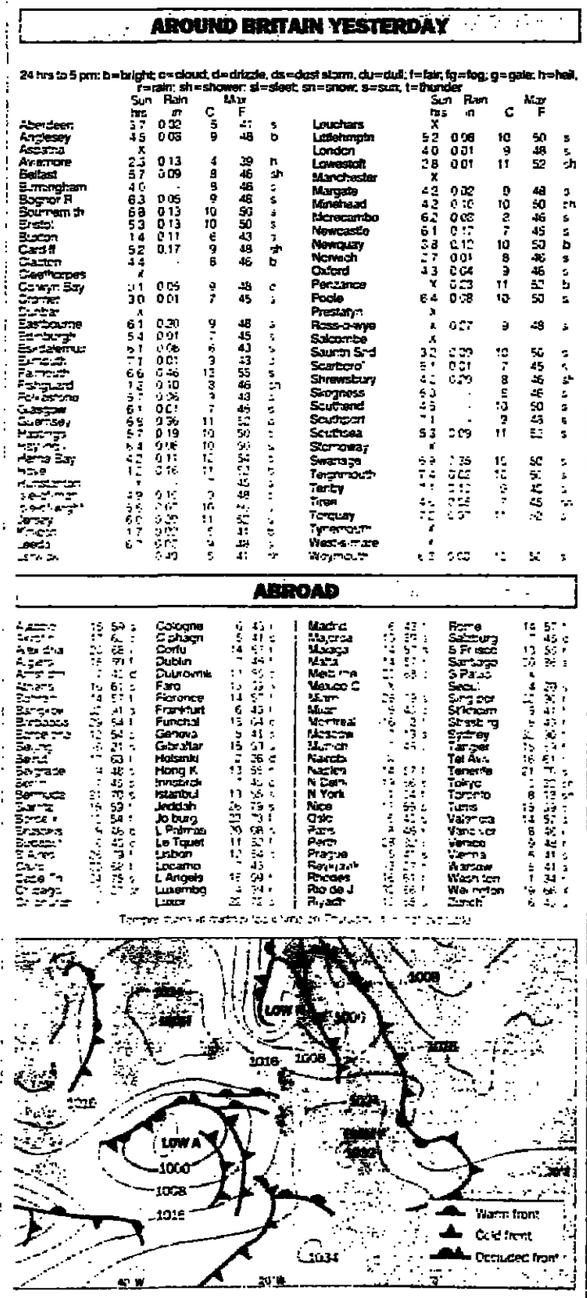
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; dr=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

| | Sun hrs | Rain in | Max C | Max F | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aberdeen | 3.7 | 0.02 | 5 | 41 | s |
| Anglesey | 4.5 | 0.03 | 9 | 48 | b |
| Ascot | X | | | | |
| Aviemore | 2.3 | 0.13 | 4 | 39 | h |
| Belfast | 3.7 | 0.09 | 8 | 46 | sh |
| Birmingham | 4.0 | - | 9 | 48 | c |
| Bognor R | 6.3 | 0.05 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Bournem'th | 6.8 | 0.13 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Bristol | 5.3 | 0.13 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Buxton | 1.4 | 0.11 | 6 | 43 | r |
| Cardiff | 5.2 | 0.17 | 9 | 48 | sh |
| Claxton | 4.4 | - | 8 | 46 | b |
| Cleethorpes | X | | | | |
| Colwyn Bay | 3.1 | 0.05 | 9 | 48 | c |
| Cromer | 3.0 | 0.01 | 7 | 45 | s |
| Dunbar | X | | | | |
| Eastbourne | 6.1 | 0.20 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Edinburgh | 5.4 | 0.01 | 7 | 45 | s |
| Eskdalemuir | 5.1 | 0.06 | 6 | 43 | s |
| Exmouth | 7.1 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Falmouth | 6.6 | 0.46 | 13 | 55 | s |
| Fishguard | 1.5 | 0.10 | 8 | 46 | sh |
| Fort Bernera | 3.1 | 0.26 | 7 | 45 | r |
| Guernsey | 6.1 | 0.01 | 7 | 45 | s |
| Guernsey | 6.9 | 0.36 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Hastings | 5.7 | 0.19 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Heathrow | 5.4 | 0.18 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Herne Bay | 4.2 | 0.11 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Hove | 1.2 | 0.16 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Hurn | - | - | - | - | - |
| Jersey | 4.9 | 0.12 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Kinloss | 1.7 | 0.05 | 4 | 39 | sh |
| Leeds | 3.7 | 0.02 | 5 | 41 | s |
| Leuchars | X | | | | |
| Lingfield | 5.2 | 0.08 | 10 | 50 | s |
| London | 4.0 | 0.01 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Lowestoft | 2.8 | 0.01 | 11 | 52 | sh |
| Manchester | X | | | | |
| Margate | 4.2 | 0.02 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Minehead | 4.2 | 0.16 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Morecambe | 6.2 | 0.08 | 8 | 46 | s |
| Newcastle | 6.1 | 0.11 | 7 | 45 | s |
| Newquay | 3.8 | 0.15 | 10 | 50 | b |
| Norwich | 4.7 | 0.01 | 8 | 46 | s |
| Oxford | 4.3 | 0.04 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Penzance | X | 0.03 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Poole | 6.4 | 0.08 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Prestatyn | X | | | | |
| Ross-on-Wye | X | 0.27 | 9 | 48 | s |
| Salcombe | X | | | | |
| Saunton Snd | 3.2 | 0.29 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Scarboro' | 4.7 | 0.01 | 7 | 45 | s |
| Shrewsbury | 4.1 | 0.29 | 8 | 46 | s |
| Skegness | 6.3 | - | 8 | 46 | s |
| Southend | 4.5 | - | 10 | 50 | s |
| Southport | 4.1 | - | 9 | 48 | s |
| Southsea | 5.3 | 0.09 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Stornoway | X | | | | |
| Swanage | 6.9 | 0.36 | 10 | 50 | s |
| Teignmouth | 4.1 | 0.11 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Tenby | 4.1 | 0.11 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Tiree | 7.4 | 0.03 | 7 | 45 | s |
| Torquay | 7.1 | 0.01 | 11 | 52 | s |
| Tynemouth | X | | | | |
| Weston-s-mare | X | | | | |
| Weymouth | 6.2 | 0.03 | 11 | 52 | s |

**ABROAD**

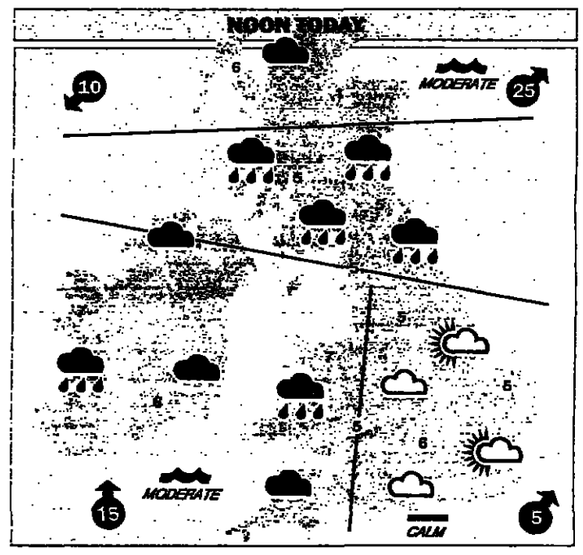
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Alicante | 15 | 59 | Cologne | 6 | 43 | Madrid | 6 | 43 |
| Amster'm | 7 | 45 | C Shagn | 5 | 41 | Majorca | 13 | 55 |
| Abu Dhabi | 29 | 84 | Corfu | 14 | 57 | Malaga | 13 | 55 |
| Athens | 11 | 52 | Dublin | 8 | 46 | Malta | 15 | 59 |
| Bahrain | 19 | 66 | Dubrovnik | 11 | 52 | Mel'rne | 23 | 73 |
| Barbados | 28 | 82 | Faro | 15 | 59 | Mexico C | 23 | 73 |
| Barcelona | 13 | 55 | Florence | 14 | 57 | Miami | 24 | 75 |
| Bangkok | 31 | 88 | Frankfurt | 6 | 43 | Milan | 10 | 50 |
| Bermuda | 23 | 73 | Funchal | 15 | 59 | Montreal | 1 | 34 |
| Beirut | 16 | 61 | Geneva | 9 | 48 | Moscow | -1 | 30 |
| Belgrade | 8 | 46 | Gibraltar | 15 | 59 | Munich | 5 | 41 |
| Berlin | 4 | 39 | Helsinki | 1 | 34 | Nairobi | 26 | 79 |
| Bombay | 31 | 88 | Hong K | 13 | 55 | Naples | 13 | 55 |
| Brussels | 7 | 45 | Innsbruck | 4 | 39 | Nassau | 26 | 79 |
| Budapest | 7 | 45 | Istanbul | 11 | 52 | N York | 3 | 37 |
| Cairo | 19 | 66 | Jeddah | 28 | 82 | Nice | 13 | 55 |
| Calgary | 5 | 41 | Jo burg | 23 | 73 | Oslo | 1 | 34 |
| Canaries | 20 | 68 | L Palmas | 20 | 68 | Paris | 7 | 45 |
| Capetown | 25 | 77 | Le Touet | 11 | 52 | Perth | 31 | 88 |
| Chicago | 1 | 34 | Lisbon | 12 | 54 | Prague | 4 | 39 |
| Colombo | 31 | 88 | Locarno | 4 | 39 | Reykjavik | 1 | 34 |
| Corfu | 14 | 57 | L Angels | 18 | 64 | Rhodes | 14 | 57 |
| Crete | 16 | 61 | Luxembg | 4 | 39 | Rio de J | 31 | 88 |
| Cyprus | 17 | 63 | Luxor | 24 | 75 | Riyadh | 25 | 77 |
| Dakar | 31 | 88 | Madeira | 16 | 61 | Rome | 10 | 50 |
| Delhi | 23 | 73 | Majorca | 13 | 55 | Salzburg | 3 | 37 |
| Dubai | 31 | 88 | Malaga | 13 | 55 | S Fransco | 13 | 55 |
| Dublin | 8 | 46 | Malta | 15 | 59 | Santiago | 31 | 88 |
| Dubrovnik | 11 | 52 | Melbne | 23 | 73 | S Paulo | 31 | 88 |
| Faro | 15 | 59 | Mexico C | 23 | 73 | Seoul | 1 | 34 |
| Florence | 14 | 57 | Miami | 24 | 75 | Singapr | 31 | 88 |
| Frankfurt | 6 | 43 | Milan | 10 | 50 | Stkholm | 1 | 34 |
| Funchal | 15 | 59 | Montreal | 1 | 34 | Strasbrg | 4 | 39 |
| Geneva | 9 | 48 | Moscow | -1 | 30 | Sydney | 26 | 79 |
| Gibraltar | 15 | 59 | Munich | 5 | 41 | Tangier | 16 | 61 |
| Helsinki | 1 | 34 | Nairobi | 26 | 79 | Tel Aviv | 19 | 66 |
| Hong K | 13 | 55 | Naples | 13 | 55 | Tenerife | 20 | 68 |
| Innsbruck | 4 | 39 | Nassau | 26 | 79 | Tokyo | 10 | 50 |
| Istanbul | 11 | 52 | N York | 3 | 37 | Toronto | 0 | 32 |
| Jeddah | 28 | 82 | Nice | 13 | 55 | Tunis | 16 | 61 |
| Jo burg | 23 | 73 | Oslo | 1 | 34 | Valencia | 13 | 55 |
| L Palmas | 20 | 68 | Paris | 7 | 45 | Vancouv | 6 | 43 |
| Le Touet | 11 | 52 | Perth | 31 | 88 | Venice | 6 | 43 |
| Lisbon | 12 | 54 | Prague | 4 | 39 | Vienna | 4 | 39 |
| Locarno | 4 | 39 | Reykjavik | 1 | 34 | Warsaw | 1 | 34 |
| L Angels | 18 | 64 | Rhodes | 14 | 57 | Wash'ton | 3 | 37 |
| Luxembg | 4 | 39 | Rio de J | 31 | 88 | Wellnton | 19 | 66 |
| Luxor | 24 | 75 | Riyadh | 25 | 77 | Zurich | 4 | 39 |

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday. s=sun; r=rain; sn=snow; sh=showers; t=thunder; c=cloud; f=fair; fg=fog; h=hail; b=bright; dr=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; g=gale

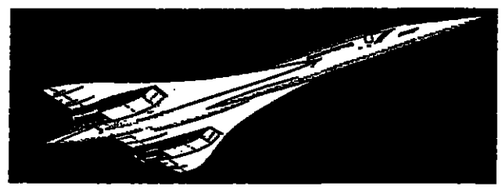



Drier grey to the chart above from noon. Low A will fill as it drifts to the north of the Gulf of Bothnia. High F will decline as it drifts east

**NOON TODAY**







**TORONTO OR ICELAND**

BA 747 to Toronto on 22 May, 4 July, 1,31 August or 5,19 September • five nights at Sheraton • city tour • harbour cruise • Niagara with helicopter • theatre • Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,999

Concorde to Iceland on 4 July • five nights • tour Reykjavik, Gulfoss Falls and springs at Geysir • see the whales in Midnight Sun • icebergs boat trip £1,999

**MONACO G.P., WORLD CUP**

Eurostar First Class to Paris on 23 May • city tour • overnight • Concorde to Nice • Monaco Grand Prix seat with luncheon • Heathrow return £1,599

Concorde supersonic to Paris on 12 July • seat for the World Cup Final • return to Heathrow £1,999

**ORIANA & ORIENT-EXPRESS**

Orient-Express to Southampton on 28 April • six night Oriana cruise via Madeira and Tenerife to Lisbon • Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,999

Concorde to Pisa on 16 May • tour Florence • six night Oriana cruise to Southampton via Ibiza and Gibraltar • Orient-Express return £1,999

Orient-Express to Southampton on 22 May • three night Oriana cruise to Amsterdam • tour Bruges and Brussels • Concorde supersonic return £1,299

**QE2 OR GRAND PRINCESS**

Orient-Express to Southampton on 10 June • six night QE2 cruise to Tenerife via Lisbon, Cadiz and Lanzarote • Concorde to Heathrow £1,999

Orient-Express to Southampton on 20 July • eight night Land of the Midnight Sun QE2 cruise via the Norwegian Fjords • Concorde return £2,999

Five night cruise on the new Grand Princess from Istanbul to Venice on 19 June or 16 August via Ephesus and Athens • Concorde return £1,999

*For our full colour brochure, please telephone:*

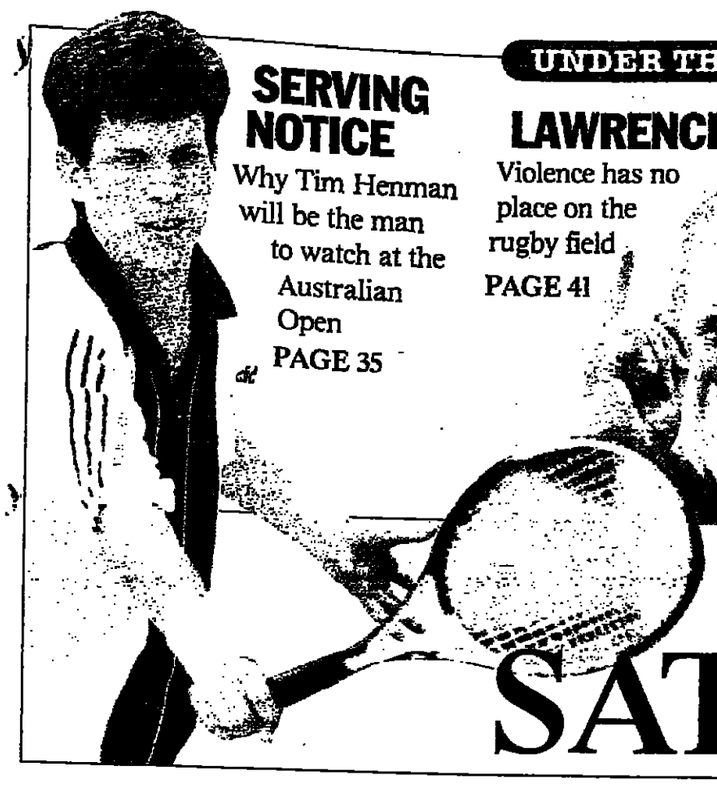
0181-992 4477

*or write to*

SUPERLATIVE TRAVEL
43, Woodhurst Road, London, W3 6SS

ABTA V1483

هكذا من الجريدة



UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

**SERVING NOTICE**
Why Tim Henman will be the man to watch at the Australian Open
PAGE 35

**LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO**
Violence has no place on the rugby field
PAGE 41

**PLUS DANNY BAKER**
Relishing football's fear of food
PAGE 34



**OFF AND RUNNING**
England's cricketers pitch into early trouble in Jamaica
PAGE 41



WEEKEND MONEY
When it comes to art, just buy what you like
PAGE 62

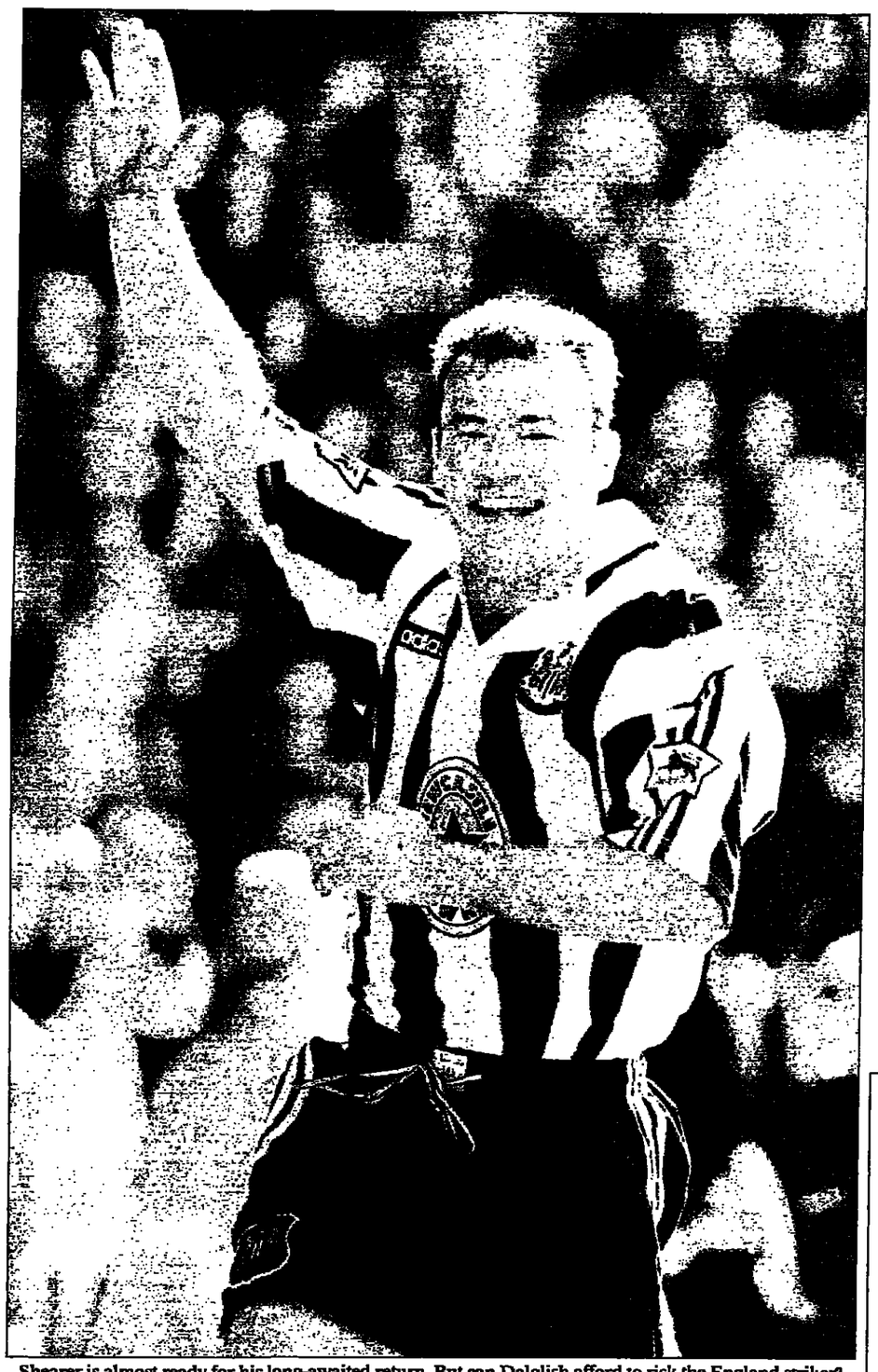


go
Hooray for Harley, the leader of the pack
PAGE 45

THE TIMES SATURDAY SPORT
12 PAGES
JANUARY 17 1998

# Dalglish toys with Shearer gamble

## Will he or won't he play against Bolton today? **Rob Hughes** weighs up the dilemma facing the Newcastle manager



Shearer is almost ready for his long-awaited return. But can Dalglish afford to risk the England striker?

THE question in English sport this weekend is whether Newcastle United's week of desperate emotion will push Kenny Dalglish into gambling on the form and fitness of Alan Shearer today, with all that that could mean for England, the World Cup, and the passions on Tyneside.

Dalglish, not waiting for the question yesterday, commented: "We're not going to be stupid enough to act irresponsibly — he is under consideration to play against Bolton Wanderers, that's all."

All? Far from it. As the manager spoke inside St James' Park, the chill air of disillusionment on the Tyne was all around. The people, Geordies who know their football, know their club and know Shearer as one of their own, are at a crossroads of belief with Dalglish as he starts the second year of his term as manager.

Dalglish, whatever the sour moods he has gone through, was yesterday almost serene after morning training, ready and willing to sit down and rationally debate the immediate prospects of possibly the only man on Tyneside who can score the goals to arrest a woeful run of eight games without victory.

"He's done everything that has been expected of him in training," Dalglish said of Shearer. "Tuesday's game [a junior match in which Shearer scored behind closed doors] was just an extension of the training he has already done. There was no reaction in any way, shape, or form, other than a bit of stiffness. There is also no decision about whether he plays or not. Alan and I have been through it before. We know each other, we respect each other, we discuss it with each other. He's a very, very honest lad, he's a footballer who wants to play, and determination is probably his biggest asset. But the one decision we have taken is that we will act responsibly."

Nevertheless, Shearer at that moment could be seen outside the room signing autographs with the kind of contentment that comes to a competitor only when he feels he is nearing the resumption of play after breaking his ankle and rupturing ligaments six months ago.

But this isn't a *Boys' Own* tale. Shearer, though the nation sometimes sees it otherwise, is flesh and blood, vulnerable to being rushed back before the healing processes have had their full time. I suspect he will be on the bench this afternoon, a £30,000-a-week substitute in waiting, handled with care by a manager who, in their time together at Blackburn Rovers, held Shearer back against his will, protected the player from his own impatience.

We can be sure of one thing: Dalglish has the courage, even with the clamour of 36,000 voices around him, to withstand everyone else's input until he senses the moment has come. It is something of instinct in the man, something he had as a supreme player, and something he shares with Shearer: trust and timing.

One wonders where that quality went during Newcastle's past traumatic fortnight. Dalglish achieved the initial transition of maintaining the club's position, second-best to Manchester United, last season. To countless supporters, though, he has betrayed the cavalier beauty of Keegan's football, and he has also been weighed down by having to manage such a mighty club with a plc on his back. The share price has fallen from 135p, when the club was floated last April, to 93p, when Dalglish had to admit this week that Faustino Asprilla was making it impossible to retain him.

Sometimes, in this city of such naked ambition, a place where football becomes almost irrationally over-important, you need time and space to find the real pulse, the real people, the real fan.

Malcolm Berry, the chief executive of the English Schools' Football Association, and who in his time has recommended many a lad to United, has just celebrated 50 years as a follower of the Magpies. "I think the supporters are having one big shock," he said. "We were led to believe by the wonderful Sir John Hall that nothing could go wrong this time.

"To most ordinary Newcastle United supporters, there is now a genuine fear that we could go down. It's exacerbated by what is happening at Sunderland, rebuilt on a shoestring as the press write it, and worse, they have Lee Clark, one of *our* own boys. It just doesn't add up. It hurts like hell, and yet most of us would like to believe that Dalglish can turn it around."

Those people in the city, the shareholders and the sudden experts who know everything about the value of form, are saying things like "this is not the time to have sold Asprilla". What do they know? What can they know about holding together a football team? "I realise there's not too much to celebrate at the moment," Dalglish said. "But if everybody sticks together, if the players compete for one another, if they don't lose their belief or confidence in themselves, we can put a fresh impetus, a fresh perspective on this chapter."

Today, there is a possible substitute on the other side who might rise from the bench to deepen the alarm. "You mean Peter?" Dalglish said. "There's also Scott Sellars. But Peter Beardsley is a tremendously gifted player, and if he does play, then he'll be a threat."

And what does Beardsley think? "I said when he arrived that Kenny was the right man for the job, and I still believe that," he said. "Nobody thought any different until the last month or so."

Euro 2000 kicks off, page 36
Palmer's revival, page 37
Match-by-match guide, page 38
Steve McManaman, page 39

**NEWCASTLE'S YEAR UNDER DALGLISH**

**HAPPY TIMES JANUARY 1997**

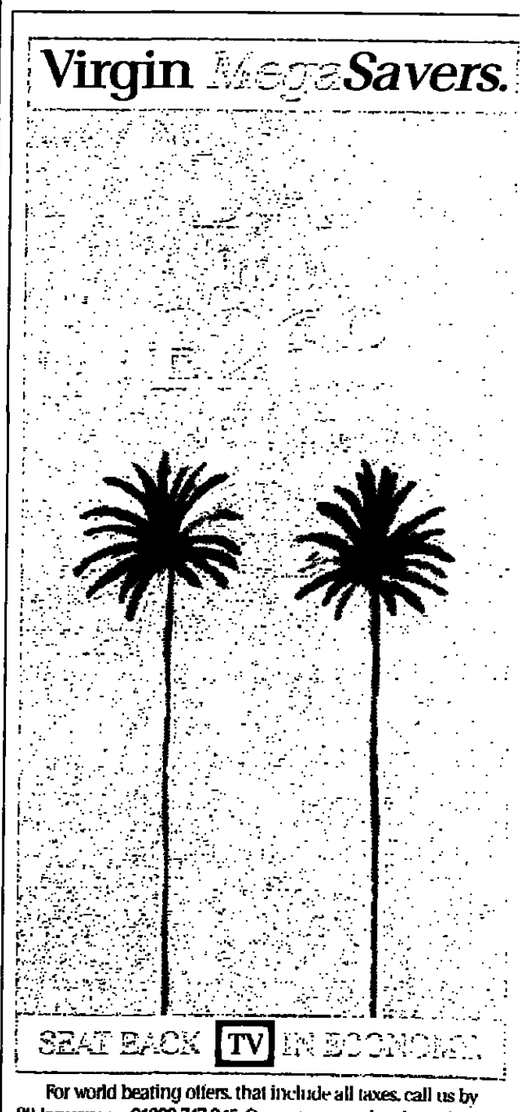
| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Liverpool | 23 | 12 | 7 | 4 | 38 | 20 | 43 |
| 2 Manchester Utd | 22 | 11 | 8 | 3 | 44 | 26 | 41 |
| 3 Arsenal | 22 | 11 | 7 | 4 | 39 | 21 | 40 |
| 4 Newcastle | 22 | 11 | 5 | 6 | 40 | 24 | 38 |



**DESPERATE TIMES JANUARY 1998**

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11 Newcastle | 21 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 22 | 27 | 26 |
| 12 Sheffield Wed | 22 | 7 | 5 | 10 | 34 | 45 | 26 |
| 13 Southampton | 22 | 7 | 4 | 11 | 25 | 30 | 25 |
| 14 Wimbledon | 21 | 6 | 6 | 9 | 21 | 26 | 24 |
| 15 Everton | 22 | 6 | 5 | 11 | 23 | 32 | 23 |
| 16 Coventry | 22 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 21 | 31 | 23 |
| 17 Crystal Palace | 22 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 21 | 31 | 23 |
| 18 Bolton | 22 | 4 | 10 | 8 | 19 | 33 | 22 |
| 19 Tottenham | 22 | 5 | 5 | 12 | 19 | 39 | 20 |
| 20 Barnsley | 22 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 19 | 57 | 18 |

Virgin MegaSavers.



SEAT BACK TV IN ECONOMY

For world beating offers that include all taxes, call us by 28 January on 01293 747 245. Or contact your local travel agent.

virgin atlantic

Taxes are subject to change due to currency conversion. Los Angeles fare £225 return (£180). Book by 28 January 1998. Outbound travel by 31 March 1998. Limited availability. Other restrictions apply.

# Venables should stick to what he's good at

## Brilliant at football, the former England coach fails elsewhere

**LYNNE TRUSS**

Reading about the freefalling fortunes of Laura Ashley yesterday morning, my companion made a sage remark in a Northern accent. "Stick to your knitting," he said gruffly, and turned the page. He knows about commerce, this man: scrutinise failed businessmen, he said, and you will often find they have shunned this simple piece of conventional wisdom. Just because you can click up a storm with the number eights, you see, you are not guaranteed success in fast food or bowling alleys.

I mention all this because people are always advising Terry Venables to stick to his knitting and their reasons have grown more obvious with every day that passed this week. How can one man be superlative at one thing and so lousy at everything else? In his natural profession of football, Venables is indisputably brilliant and successful. For 20 years as a manager, he's left a trail of glory strewn with hallelujahs and Spanish *olés*. He took England to the semi-finals of Euro 96. He is well-liked, tanned, outgoing and, moreover, regarded as clever. As a football coach, he has never mistakenly assumed (in the time-honoured joke) that tactics were a kind of mint.

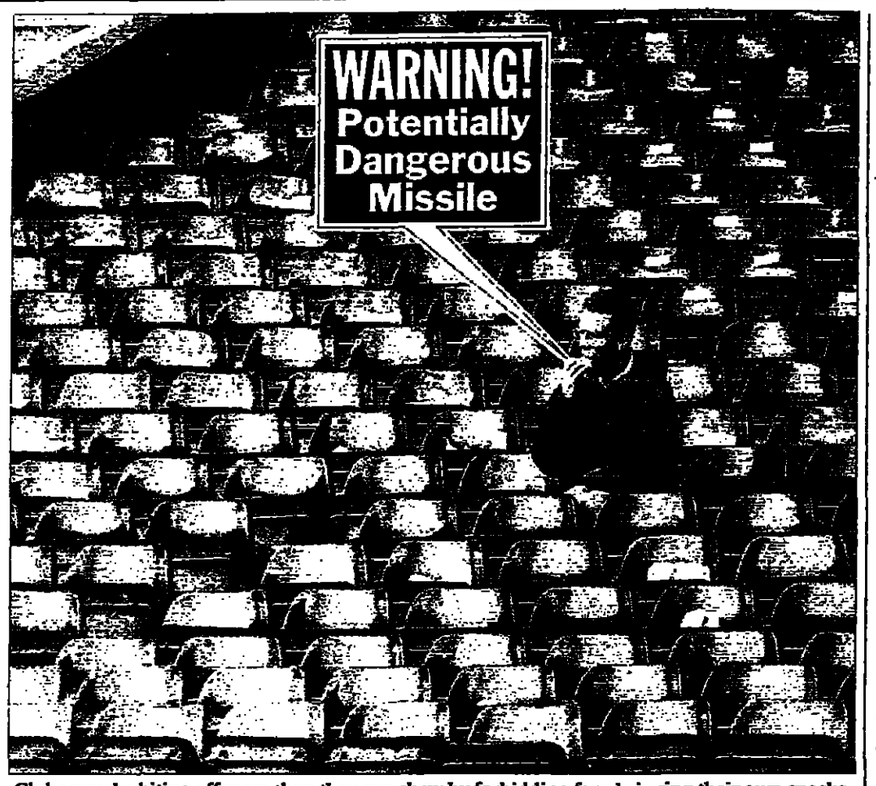
But in his sideline professions, only opposites apply. The trail he leaves is whiffy and blocked with burned-out vehicles and nee-naws. He's defensive, hard-bitten, grey-faced. Tactically, he doesn't even understand the Tic Tac joke. But worst of all, he has come to personify self-seeking — an unattractive pursuit that comes naturally enough to many sports professionals, but in general is sensibly concealed under wraps. When Venables took a legitimate £300,000 "performance bonus" out of the starving mouths of Portsmouth, the disapproving pursing of lips was universal. Poor little Portsmouth thought he would save their bacon; instead, he walked off with their bank balance.

Sadly, to anyone who knows little about football, Venables's story just feeds prejudices. In 1994, when he was appointed national coach, he said with some justification: "I must be the only person who could actually get less publicity by becoming manager of England." As someone who started taking an interest in football only 18 months ago, I can testify that Terry Venables, Sir Alf Ramsey and Brian Clough were probably the only managerial names I could produce on demand. I had no idea what Terry Venables did on the football field. I knew him only as a cockney walking courtcase whose "funny reputation" was at least twice as funny as anyone else's.

But I could have picked him out of a line-up, that's my point. He's a very famous bloke — and, for a lot of people, he represents football. The decision to ban him from holding company directorships for seven years is not just a personal blow to him (which we can enjoy a bit); unfortunately, it also confirms in the public imagination that football management is a magnet for venal personalities, as some people already suspected.

So if "stick with the knitting" is how it goes for Terry Venables, it's not so tough a fate for him. Evidence is surely mounting that managers should be coaches merely, and may be sensibly steered away from all matters of dosh in the future and returned to basics in the wool shop. But for Terry himself — well, everyone wants his services, even Nigeria. He is good at a job that most people would gladly sacrifice an essential limb to have a crack at. And it's not as though it really involves knit-one-purl-one for the rest of his natural life.

# Arsenal hot dog ban a row to relish



Clubs may be biting off more than they can chew by forbidding fans bringing their own snacks

The clamour over the potential dangers of food seems to have taken a sporting turn. Arsenal have erected a culinary ring of steel around Highbury. An impassioned and wrathful letter arrives, giving details of how its author — a 16-year-old from Kent — attempted to gain entry to the Arsenal v Leeds fixture last week while holding a hot dog.

I say "attempted" because, upon the proper authorities spotting the rogue meal, all kinds of uniformed security appeared, several metal shutters slammed into place and my correspondent was, after a short and pointed interview, brusquely denied admission.

He makes it very clear that at no point did he ever attempt to conceal the hot dog. Nor did he hold it in a manner calculated to inflame the opposition. He simply carried it within a napkin in his free hand while the other proffered a legitimate ticket.

My first thoughts were that the club had finally declared itself The Breakaway Republic of Arsenal and had imposed its own border controls. However, a friend of mine reasons that, if this were so, the entire crowd would never be able to leave the ground, and this situation is plainly belied by the many thousands seen regularly and freely streaming away from Highbury, often long before the half-time whistle.

So why does the only credible side left in North London react to a simple banger and bun in such a manner? Perhaps the threat is one of security. The single most successful radio phone-in subject I ever floated was What Have You Had Taken From You On Entering A Football Ground? Although the responses ranged from a Vicks inhaler to a breast pump, the overwhelming items were comestibles: cakes, biscuits, a cheese, yoghurts, cartons of drink and, if a couple in Newquay are to be believed, three pieces of chewing gum at Bristol City.

All of these honest foodstuffs were adjudged to be destined for just one thing: sooner or later they would be launched at players. I thought then, and still think now, that even if there were a scintilla of truth in this potty paranoia, it would not be the end of the world.

The tradition of throwing food — rotten or otherwise — at lousy performers is a novel and long-standing one. Perhaps if Stan Collymore had been egged, floured or struck amidships with a rancid old rasher of bacon by now, he might be pulling out that extra stop. As it is, the modern game views even a single McDonald's chip as a Cossack's scimitar.

The third possibility, and the one proffered by the letter-writer himself, is that Arsenal allows into its premises no food or drink that is not Official Gunner Produce. Can certain Premiership clubs have become so puffed up, remote and dictatorial that they want to extend their control of the public right down to their dietary needs? Besides, is it legal to ban a van-vendered hot dog in favour of one that springs from the fat of the Mothership? My individual Harrods hamper? No. Your flaccid pancake roll? Yes. Whither your "bring back the family" mythology if mum is going to be relieved of her flask of chicken soup and handed a half-pint of flat Tizer?

I suggest Arsenal plc had better watch out. Just last year, while pursuing the above-mentioned phone-in topic, I learnt that Torquay United — that's Torquay United — removed from a season-ticket holder the paperback book that he'd hoped to disappear into during the less-than-gripping stages of a match against Shrewsbury. Despite his protests, the officials would not be disillusioned of their belief that a pot-boiler is simply an Exocet travelling under an alias. Together, this man and I whipped up such local indignation that at the next home game a full house blotted out the sky by holding aloft and defiantly waving all manner of smuggled-in thrillers, romances, travel guides and classics. It would surely be the work of a moment to instruct the North Bank to be at their wurst.

DANNY BAKER



## Law-abiding with me

To the London Dungeons for my monthly stroll around the gore. In the gift shop on the way out I buy *The Book of Criminal Records*, by Mitchell Symons, one of those breezy compendiums of amazing facts that I am sure my 11-year-old son will morbidly gobble up. Needless to say, I haven't put the thing down long enough yet. On page 299 I come across the most astounding thing. There is a list of those old British laws that have never actually been repealed and immediately after the one about "it is illegal to cleanse, hoop, fire, wash or scald any cask or tub in the street" come these words: "It is illegal to play or watch football." Eh? Is it true or is Symons merely trying to see if his audience is paying attention? He illuminates no further. So, to your pens and envelopes, chums. Is it actually illegal to play or watch football? I do hope so. Then Millwall's ghastly season might be expunged on a technicality.

# Venables loses out in title race

Everyone, save perhaps those directly involved, will be saddened to learn that Terry Venables no longer has jobs at both ends of the planet; soon, it is hinted, perhaps no job at all. In a football world becoming more corporate and poker-faced by the day, his rollicking carpetbaggery was inspirational.

Who could stifle a smile at the way, when these extraordinary bihemispheric gigs were announced, that Venables deflected even the most pointed inquiry with a world-weary smile, a roll of the eyes and a short, patient talk on the nature of the game in a shrinking planet. Of course, people muttered. Perfectly straightforward arrangement. Football revolution. Internet. Laptop. That sort of thing. Must look forward or be left behind. All be doing it soon.

By way of a straw poll I phoned friends to see if they could name Terry's actual titles while collecting the Oz and Pompey shilling. Interestingly, nobody would risk hard cash on their answers, which ranged from the plausible "Director Of All Football Ever" through the obscure "*Herr Obergruppenfuhrer Anzac Fussball Gemacht*" to the plainly frivolous "Nabob Of Sob".

What everyone agrees on, though, is that elaborate titles are the way forward. We need more Overseers Of Technical Excellence and fewer managers; more Youth Policy Implementation Scheme Advisers and fewer scouts; more Club Community Refreshment Captains and fewer blokes selling pies. And, while we're at it, please God more Terry Venables's and fewer cautious journeymen.

# Victims of poor volume control

Why are there no women announcers at football grounds? With the pressure on modern women to be "into" football plus the hopelessly clumsy bias in broadcasting to come up with a good sporty gal to front even the dullest male locker-room items, I'd have thought hundreds of them would have been thrust into public address booths seasons back.

But no. My research reveals that QPR had one for half a season five years ago, but since then the market has been sluggish, if not non-existent. Then again, this may be conclusive proof that women really are smarter than men.

I've often wondered who could be attracted by a job in which you have less to do than a hospital DJ, lacks the drama of a railway station announcer and has only marginally more penetration into the consciousness than a tape of pan-pipe music playing in the bogs of a motorway Little Chef.

The true characters of the Tannoy trade can be counted on the fingers of ... well, the finger, actually. Apparently, there was a man at Sheffield United in the Sixties who would "sing" the half-time scores while accompanying himself on the violin.

I have only been in a stadium soundbox once, two years back, and to be honest made rather a fool of myself. We were filming a follow-up piece about The Curse Of Birmingham City, to which I referred here some weeks ago, and the camera crew were engaged on the pitch of St Andrew's, taking shots of the empty stadium.

I found myself wandering the corridors of the club and was soon gazing into a small room in which there was nothing but a chair, some headphones, a large microphone and a basic mixing desk. Through the huge window I could see my crew and several Birmingham officials in the centre circle with their backs toward me. Now, I ask you, are we not flesh and blood? Is there anyone who could resist the open invitation and simply walk on?

Barely able to breathe from the giggling brought on by the sheer thrill of it all, I positioned myself in the seat and waited my moment. At the exact point when it appeared all outside were lost in contemplation of the Restless Spirit Of St Andrews, I slid the fader up to its most open point and said in a deep, booming voice: "My name is Trevor Francis. And I'm not wearing any trousers." I write that not for its obvious comic effect, but that "My name is Trevor Francis and I'm not wearing any trousers" is exactly what I said.

Well, to be fair, even I was shaken by just how loud it sounded. Like most people, I was under the impression that the most powerful stadium PA barely rose above a thin, muted tone. Apparently, that's because the announcers are instructed never to go above a "3" on the desk. Even then, the accumulated bodies inside the ground soak up a fair bit of vibration, reducing impact still further. I, of course, had opened right up to a Spinal Tap-esque "11" in a venue that was almost completely deserted.

Now, I don't know if you are familiar with the cataclysmic effect in the film *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* when the enormous spaceship finally decides to answer the sonic signalling from Earth. I hope so, because that was the effect my short address had upon hitting the air. People as far afield as Tamworth and Royal Leamington Spa were pitched headlong into their evening tea. A lady in Walsall, who as a child had survived an earthquake in Bangladesh, ran out into the street damning the heavens for repeating the dose. In the immediate area trees were stripped, roofs shifted and a variety of birds were brought down.

As for my intended victims on the pitch, they eventually emerged from the crater blackened, in tatters, and those who still had hair saw it standing straight up. And childish though it may sound, the only way to describe what happened to me is that I was told off. Really told off. Birmingham City FC, I was informed, were under enough pressure from local residents as it was without this additional, unadvertised and unprovoked aural thunderbolt.

Moreover, the image of the team's under-fire manager skylarking trouserless for his own amusement was not one the club were comfortable with. Filming was henceforth wrapped and nobody spoke to me on the way back to London.

Upon reflection, perhaps, it is not so shocking that women have chosen to eschew life in the "squawk box". It is dull, unrewarding and, for those of a creative disposition, not without its dangers.

**Danny Baker is on Talk Radio (1053-1089am) every Saturday from 5.30pm.**

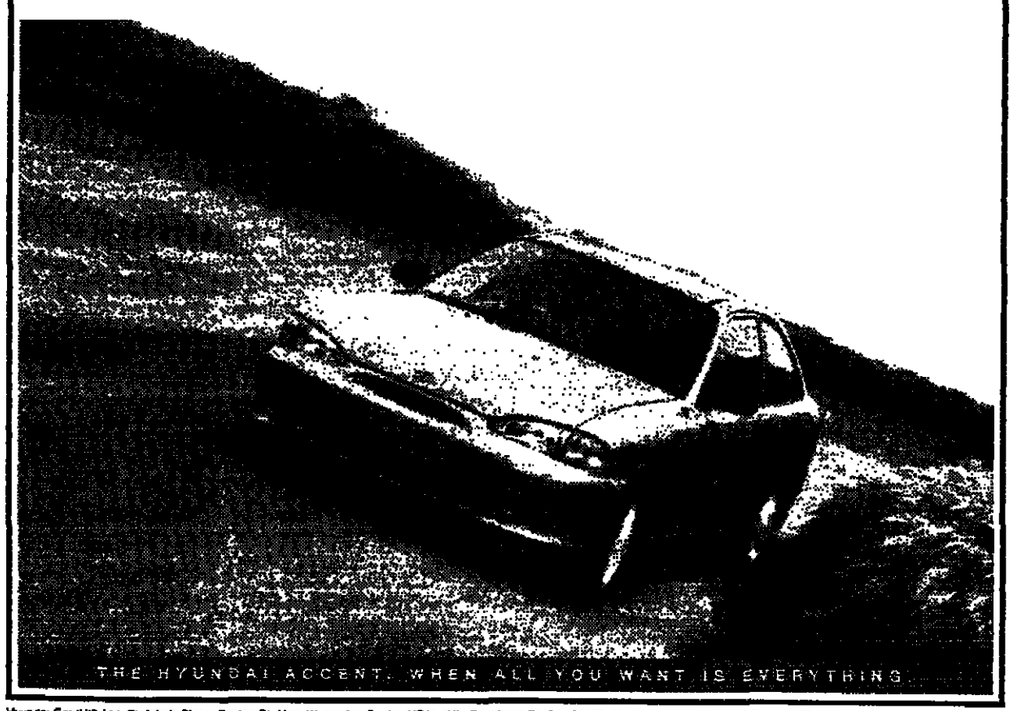
Admittedly £7,599 may be over your cashpoint limit, but then the 1.3 litre Accent Colpo is worth every penny. Its 53 bhp engine is the most powerful available for the price. A three year unlimited mileage warranty, three years Hyundai RAC Assistance and 'lifetime' paintwork and rust perforation are included. Finally, even a choice of one year's free insurance or three years' free servicing if you purchase before June. Which will leave you with one decision. How would you like to pay for it?

For more information on the entire Accent range, visit your nearest Hyundai dealer or simply freephone us on 0800 581 581.

HYUNDAI

£7,599.
Would you like us to arrange finance?

Or shall we just hold it for you while you pop down to the cashpoint?




Hyundai Car (UK) Ltd, St John's Place, Easton St, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1NL. Telephone 01494 426600. Model featured: Accent 1.3i, price £7,599 on the road. On the road price includes delivery, number plate charges and 12 months' road fund licence. Prices and vehicle specification correct at time of going to press. Free insurance offer available to anyone aged between 25 and 75, subject to status, through the approved Hyundai insurance scheme. Free servicing is based upon 3 years or 30,000 miles on whichever comes first and extends to routine operations and/or replacements specified in the routine maintenance service schedule, applicable to mechanical servicing requirements only. Free insurance, free servicing offer available to bona-fide retail purchases only and must be first registered keeper (offer available on all new Accent models – excluding Motability). Vehicle must be registered between 1.1.98 and 31.5.98. No cash alternative. See your dealer for warranty details. www.hyundai-car.co.uk

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1998. Published and printed [illegible] electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kirby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HS, telephone 0151-546 2000, Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office

UK newspapers in the year's hall of 1997

**BASKETBALL:** DONEWALD CUTS FLAMBOYANT FIGURE AS LEICESTER HEAD FOR FINAL

# Riders' coach goes down a storm

**Nicholas Harling** says there could be fireworks on and off court in Sheffield

They say that a team is a mirror image of its coach. If that were true in the case of Bob Donewald, the Leicester Riders team that faces Thames Valley Tigers in the Sainsbury's Classic Cola National Cup final today would arrive at the Sheffield Arena on Suzuki chopper motorbikes. They would wear the zaniest kit and, in all probability, be thrown prematurely out of the game.

If most of the speculation over this afternoon's contest has not been over the outcome but what antics the Leicester coach might get up, then Donewald is not too distressed. Not only is he the youngest coach in the Budweiser League, at a week short of his 28th birthday, but he is also proud of his reputation.

"When it comes down to television time, publicity and entertainment, I am bailing this club out," he said. "Would you be here talking to me if I didn't dress like an idiot?"

He will be in stark contrast to his opposite number today, the sober-suited Paul James, of the Tigers. Always fashion conscious, but formerly relatively conservative, Donewald changed his image on his first day in Leicester 18 months ago.

He was wandering around town after his transatlantic flight when he discovered Nickleby's menswear shop. So frequently did Donewald call back that soon he had struck up a deal entitling him to special discounts.

Around his neck are a couple of chains that get all tangled up when he gesticulates wildly at referees who have upset him. One depicted the cartoon character the Tasmanian Devil, the other comes with the inscription "this is to protect you from evil".

Never one to conform to a club's normal expectations of how its coach might behave, Donewald was restless driving around in his sponsored Renault. Every morning he looked wistfully at the Suzuki chopper outside a bike shop. Now the bike is his, having survived a first-day spill.

His tiffs with referees are legion. Twice last season he was thrown out of games — unfairly, according to Donewald. The only expulsion that he says he deserved came this season, in the London Arena against the Leopards, where he lasted all of three minutes.

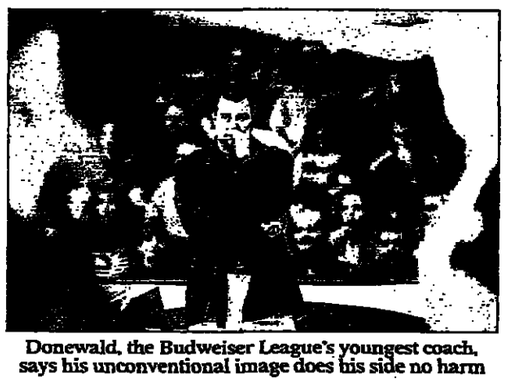
The son of Bob Donewald Sr, who coaches Western Michigan University and one of the most respected coaches in the American college game, Donewald takes unkindly to the scepticism of his elders. When, for instance, Kevin Cadle, the coach of London Towers, Leicester's victims in a semi-final, was asked who would win today, he replied: "It all depends on whether Donewald concentrates on the game or wants to put on a show. If he puts on a show, Leicester will lose."

Donewald said: "People get caught up with the image, they don't see me as a coach. People seem to forget that, when I came to Leicester, it was a club with no money and no players."

The most exciting of the players he has brought in are James Havrilla, a 6ft 11in centre, Billy Singleton, the heavyweight forward, and JaRon Boone, another free-scoring American.

Gene Waldron, the veteran three-points specialist, and Geno Ford, the diminutive guard, will make up a starting five that will be doing its utmost to contain the top Tigers, Tony Holley, Jason Siemon and John McCord. Whether the Tigers will also have enough points coming from the back court, from the likes of Casey Arena and Damian Page, will almost certainly not be the uppermost question on most people's lips.

Most probably it will be akin to the first poser from a caller on a radio phone-in this week: "What will you be wearing at the final, Bob?"


Donewald, the Budweiser League's youngest coach, says his unconventional image does his side no harm

**BOXING**

# Brown given chance to enhance career

NEVILLE BROWN, the British middleweight champion, has a chance to move back into contention for higher honours when he meets Glenn Catley at Bristol tonight (Srikumar Sen writes).

Brown, 31, has boxed for the world title and twice for the European championship. He moved up a division to challenge Steve Collins, but was unsuccessful. In Brown's second attempt at the European title, Hassine Cherifi, of France, got up off the canvas to stop him in the sixth round.

A good win over Catley could encourage the Burton upon Trent man to take his career to another level before retiring. The bout promises to be an exciting one as both men are punchers, but do not have the chin to take too many solid blows.

Arturo Gatti, the International Boxing Federation super-featherweight champion, faces Angel Manfredy in a lightweight contest in Atlantic City, New Jersey, tonight. The winner could meet Naseem Hamed in the summer.

## SNOW REPORTS

| | Depth (cm) L | U | Conditions Piste | Off/p | Runs to resort | Weather (5pm) | °C | Last snow |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ANDORRA | | | | | | | | |
| Soldeu | 25 | 70 | good | varied | fair | snow | -2 | 16/1 |
| *(Fresh snow today and good skiing on upper slopes)* | | | | | | | | |
| AUSTRIA | | | | | | | | |
| Obergurgl | 85 | 165 | good | varied | good | snow | -1 | 16/1 |
| *(Heavy snow falls: good powder skiing)* | | | | | | | | |
| Sölll | 5 | 60 | fair | packed | worn | snow | 0 | 16/1 |
| *(Good skiing on the upper runs: 28/30 lifts open)* | | | | | | | | |
| FRANCE | | | | | | | | |
| Alpe d'Huez | 78 | 220 | good | powder | good | snow | -2 | 16/1 |
| *(Approximately 50cm fresh snow has fallen)* | | | | | | | | |
| Flaine | 45 | 160 | good | fair | good | snow | 3 | 16/1 |
| *(Poor visibility and wet snow restricted skiing today)* | | | | | | | | |
| Tignes | 84 | 185 | good | powder | good | snow | 0 | 16/1 |
| *(Lots of fresh snow all day: poor visibility)* | | | | | | | | |
| ITALY | | | | | | | | |
| Cortina | 25 | 110 | good | heavy | art | cloud | 5 | 15/1 |
| *(Very mild weather melting snow on lower runs)* | | | | | | | | |
| SWITZERLAND | | | | | | | | |
| Wengen | 10 | 40 | fair | varied | closed | cloud | 1 | 14/1 |
| *(Poor visibility making skiing conditions difficult)* | | | | | | | | |

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

Changes to the [illegible] slowly as it drifts to the north of the Gulf of Bothnia, high F will decline as it [illegible]

هكذا من الأصل



World No 2 upstaged by title-holder's all-court skills in Sydney semi-final

# Henman proves revelation in routing Rafter

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT, *IN SYDNEY*

THE courtside announcer was somewhat predictable when concluding his post-race interview with Tim Henman. The Briton had just put Pat Rafter, the world No 2, to the sword in the semi-finals of the Adidas International tournament yesterday when Craig Willis decreed: "He's not a bad bloke — for a Pommie."

He's not a bad tennis player, either. Rafter later concurred with that sentiment after Henman had comprehensively upstaged Australia's prodigal son. It wasn't so much that Henman had toppled the local hero: it was the way he achieved it that truly struck a chord. In these parts, Rafter is synonymous with the kangaroo, yet Henman, his scalpel sharpened to a razor's edge, had docked Rafter's tail to the bone.

His 7-6, 7-5 rebuke of Rafter will not go down in the annals of vintage tennis. Each of the protagonists had too much respect to trade like street-fighters on a darkened corner. What occurred here was almost cerebral. It was more like a game of chess: Rafter's knight threatened along Henman's exposed flank; the Briton countered with his menacing rook.

Indeed, if Henman looks too much like a bishop's son to be menacing by appearance, there was nothing near-ecclesiastical about his racket. From within its strings, it sprung shots of rare intensity; shots so fine that Rafter, a natural athlete, looked ponderous in lunging to meet them. Henman in this vein is like the first hint of spring: a revelation from the wastelands of winter.

Watching him play can be a bitterly cold experience. He can squander his talent with sinful abandon, yet on days like these, it is obvious that he was born to rule. Rafter made no bones about it. "He has definitely got as good a chance of winning the Australian Open as I had of winning the US Open," the US Open champion said. "He is as good as any player on the tour, although he didn't serve particularly well today."

Rafter was right: Henman missed too many first services for comfort. Yet he still dismissed the world No 2 in straight sets, in his own backyard, against a man who had previously announced his intention to head for Melbourne on a victorious note.

This victory has to rank as Henman's finest hour — even if sentiment orientated him towards his defeat of Richard Krajicek, the champion, on a spellbound Centre Court at Wimbledon in June. Krajicek did not have Rafter's stock at the time, and Henman had all the support on that occasion. He was alone here: one man confronting 7,000 baying fans in addition to their proclaimed hero. And the truth is, Henman never looked like losing.

Knowing Henman, as the British audience does so well, it will be no great surprise were he to have been beaten by Karol Kucera in the final here, a match due to have been played in the early hours of this morning. Yet there appears a fresh resolve within Henman this year. His mind can wander, as it did against Mark Woodforde in the opening round. It so nearly cost him victory — and with it the opportunity to outwit Rafter and show his true mettle.

He conceded the point himself. "I am a better player than I was 12 months ago [when he won this Sydney title, his first on the Tour]. I am stronger and more experienced, but my serve is a major area of my game that can be so much better. It was working so well against Woodforde for a set and a half, but it can be inconsistent. I can't afford to let that happen at the highest level."

Rafter maintained that his service was "15 per cent" below full strength with the Australian Open on the horizon. "I didn't want to push it, but I didn't want to lose, either," he said. "I have no excuses. I still felt that I hit the ball well today." The difference between them was that Henman played the bigger points better — including a second-service ace when he faced break point at 3-3 in the deciding set.

There was also a majestic backhand return of service, across the full width of the court, to secure the opening-set tie-break. And at 128mph, the ace he conjured to close out the eleventh game of the second set, during a period when his service was functioning properly, was by some way the fastest service delivered in Sydney all week. Moreover, Henman regularly outmanoeuvred Rafter, a leading practitioner at the net, whenever the two exchanged pleasantries at close quarters. There was no department in which he played second fiddle.

This victory demonstrated that Henman can beat almost anyone on his day — and this was not one of his best days. On these occasions, he is so convincing that it is hard to understand why he is not already ranked among the world's top five. He refused to be dominated by Rafter and the time is ripe for him to extend that dominance to allcomers — with the exception of Pete Sampras, who still remains a class apart.

☐ The Henman-Kucera final will be shown in BBC1's *Grandstand* at 2.30pm.

WARREN CLARKE



Henman acknowledges the applause of a partisan crowd with a clenched fist after beating Rafter in straight sets

## Williams sisters see final dream dashed

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

A YEAR ago, Venus Williams was at home in Florida, trying to stay up late enough to catch a few of the matches at the Australian Open on television. "It looked like the sun shone all the time," she said. "I was expecting white light, white heat. So, when I came this year, I was ready."

In preparing for the first grand-slam event of the year, Williams, 17, has indeed shown that she is ready. At the Sydney International, she has coped with heat, rain and a variety of opponents, ranging from Martina Hingis, the world No 1, in the first round, to Ai Sugiyama, ranked No 20, whom she beat 6-1, 7-6 in the semi-finals yesterday.

To win her first title, Williams must defeat one of the old guard, Arantxa Sánchez Vicario, who yesterday shattered Williams's dream of facing her sister, Serena, in the final. "I guess it would have been history, but you can't dwell on things that didn't happen," Venus said.

After reaching the final of the US Open last September, Venus Williams will move up six places to No 15 in the WTA Tour rankings, whether she wins or loses against Sánchez Vicario. This week, the American has already beaten three players who will be seeded at the Australian Open in Melbourne next week — Hingis, Ruxandra Dragomir and Sugiyama — but she is unseeded and could meet her sister, ranked No 56 in the world, in the second round.

Serena, 16, who moved up 40 places after coming through as a qualifier in Sydney, has been almost as impressive. She limped to victory against Lindsay Davenport in the quarter-finals, but the task of repeating that performance the next day against Sánchez Vicario proved too much. "I wasn't tired, I was ailed," Williams said, after a 6-2, 6-1 drubbing.

"My knee, my calf, my whole right leg hurt so bad I couldn't move," she said, attributing the soreness to playing seven matches in eight days on the rubberised hardcourts.

"Even in practice this morning, I couldn't move," she said. "I had to cut it short. I kept telling myself during the match to keep going, but I just hurt too much. And she was playing pretty good.

"I had to go for winners or else. I couldn't just rally with her. But I should be all right for the Australian Open with a few days' rest."

GOLF

## Winning formula retained for Cup

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

THE method of selecting Europe's team for the Ryder Cup match, to be held at The Country Club, Brookline, near Boston, next year will show hardly any change from that used for the 1997 team. It will once again be made up ten qualifiers and two players chosen by the captain.

Perhaps a second successive victory is reason enough not to change the system. Perhaps Europe's one-point victory at Valderrama showed conclusively that it works.

Yet many of Europe's leading players have spoken out against it, calling for more players to be selected by the captain. Colin Montgomerie went so far as to suggest that the entire team should be chosen by the captain.

Severiano Ballesteros, who led the side last September, not only wanted to be able to choose more players himself but also have a shorter qualifying period and award points only to the top 15 finishers in tournaments.

Towards the end of last season Ken Schofield, the executive director of the European Tour, was hinting strongly that the world rankings would be used as a selection method.

None of these suggestions has been acted upon. The only changes are that the inaugural matchplay event in the World Golf Championships (WGC) will be included in the qualifying points table and that the two players the captain chooses must be members of the European Tour.

This latter regulation smacks of even greater isolationism. Had it been in force last year, Ballesteros would not have been able to call on Jesper Parnevik, clearly one of the best players in the world. The only change for the better is that Parnevik now needs only to compete in four European Tour events a year, instead of seven, as the three new WGC events will count, as well as the four major championships, towards the 11 events in which a player must complete to retain his membership of the European Tour.

"There was a full review of the past six matches and the general feeling was that players should make the effort to qualify for membership to be eligible," Mitchell Platts, a spokesman for the Ryder Cup committee, said.

One hopes they really know what they are doing and that these past two successes will not come to be regarded as flashes in the pan because of the dominance of isolationist views.

# Britons face contrasting routes to showdown

**Julian Muscat** says that Rusedski has an easier task than Henman before their projected meeting in the Australian Open

ALTHOUGH Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski were placed in the third section of the draw for the Australian Open, which starts in Melbourne on Monday, their respective paths to a potential quarter-final encounter could not be more diverse.

Rusedski, seeded No 5, can look ahead with confidence but the way forward for Henman, even in his present form, resembles a minefield. Should he dispatch a qualifier in the opening round, he is projected to face Goran Ivanisevic, seeded No 13, in round two.

Beyond that, Henman, who is unseeded, may then confront Nicolas Kiefer, the young German who beat him en route to his first tournament victory in Toulouse five months ago. And, if he can survive all that, he can expect to meet Michael Chang, the No 3 seed, who beat Henman in the third round in Melbourne 12 months ago.

By contrast, Rusedski opens against a qualifier before a potentially intriguing second-round pairing with Jonathan Stark. The latter is now coached by Brian Teacher, formerly Rusedski's mentor until their parting after the US Open in September.

Rusedski's draw offers him an opportunity to make significant progress in his first grand slam since he reached the US Open final. He will not face a player ranked in the world top 30 until the last 16, where Gustavo Kuerten, the No 14 seed, is his possible opponent.

However, Rusedski was reluctant to look beyond the first hurdle. "There's nothing I can say about the draw until I know who I'm playing in the first round," he said. "The key is to get through the first week. Then anything can happen."

Nevertheless, the draw's early permutations will fortify the Great Britain No 1, who completed his round-robin commitments in Melbourne yesterday with a 6-3, 7-6 victory over Thomas Muster.

Rusedski, the world No 6, has not enjoyed the brightest of starts to the year. His form in Doha, where, seeded No 1, he lost in the quarter-finals, was short of the standard he set in the autumn. One should never read too much into the outcome of exhibition matches, but winning does generate its own impetus. Rusedski will have been pleased to beat Muster after earlier defeats by Mark Philippoussis and Pete Sampras.

More than most, Rusedski's game revolves around confidence. Tired though he was after his exertions at Flushing Meadow, he returned to Europe to post an impressive sequence of results indoors. There were days when he would have run Sampras close — as he did in the Grand Slam Cup in Munich, where he led the world No 1 by a set before losing two successive tiebreaks. Interestingly, after Rusedski took a week off in October, he never really recaptured his momentum in three subsequent — if, admittedly, high-class — tournaments.

The exhibition route to a grand slam marks a new approach from Rusedski. Favoured by most leading players, it offers respite from the rigours of tournament play. But then, few players thrive on the adrenalin of winning quite like him.

Of more relevance to his prospects, perhaps, is his dislike of windy conditions and extreme heat. He is almost certain to encounter both in Melbourne. On the positive side, his passage to the US Open final makes him aware of the intense physical demands of playing seven matches in a two-week tournament — each of them decided over the best of five sets.

Henman, too, was reluctant to speculate on the possibilities thrown up by the draw, but his coach, David Felgate, agreed that it had been far from kind. "No match is easy these days but I suppose the first round [against an as-yet unidentified qualifier] could have been worse," Felgate said. "I don't like to look beyond that, but people will see Goran Ivanisevic's name there. He is unpredictable and Tim has a good record against him, so I don't think Goran will be too pleased about it himself."

Indeed he won't. Ivanisevic stalked off the court, citing an injured left arm, after Henman had given him the runaround in Stuttgart three months ago. Henman also mastered the Croatian in Sydney 12 months ago.

Pat Rafter, seeded No 2, has an equally demanding assignment as he strives to become the first Australian winner since Mark Edmonsdon, 22 years ago. After facing the dangerous Jeff Tarango, the worst-case scenario for Rafter is successive matches against Todd Martin, Andrei Medvedev and Andre Agassi. Sampras, the defending champion and No 1 seed, drew Sjeng Schalken, the Dutchman ranked No 51, in the opening round.

In the women's draw, Irena Spirlea, who accused Venus Williams of deliberately barging into her during a changeover at the US Open, seems to have disturbed something of a viper's nest. Spirlea, seeded No 6, faces Serena Williams in the opening round. Lying in wait for her in round two, should she also progress that far, will be Venus herself.

Martina Hingis, the defending champion and seeded No 1, opens against Wiltrud Probst, ranked No 88. A possible third-round opponent for Hingis is Anna Kournikova.

In the qualifying event for the Australian Open, Andrew Richardson, of Great Britain, saved one match point before beating Andrei Stoliarov, of Russia, 6-1, 5-7, 9-7. But Miles Maclagan fell at the second hurdle when Jan Apell, of Sweden, comfortably beat the Briton 5-1, 6-0.

## AUSTRALIAN OPEN DRAW

### MEN'S SINGLES

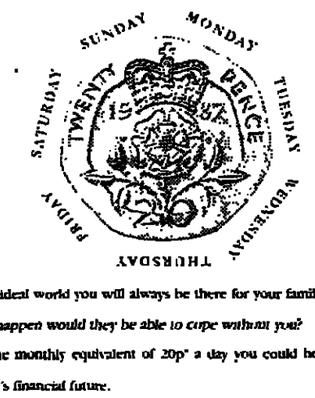
(1) P SAMPRAS (US) v S Schalken (Holl)
A Martin (Sp) v D Sanguinetti (It)
M Gustafsson (Swe) v qualifier
S Dosedel (Cz) v A Boetsch (Fr)
F Clavet (Sp) v qualifier
R Vasek (Cz) v M Washington (US)
H Dreekman (Ger) v H Arazi (Mor)
A Celebrave (Sp) v (15) M PHILIPPOUSSIS (Aus)
(10) S BRUGUERA (Sp) v K Kucera (Slovakia)
D Vacek (Cz) v L Hewitt (Aus)
G Schaller (Austria) v D Nestor (Can)
M Damm (Cz) v M Woodforde (Aus)
M Tilstrom (Swe) v L Paes (Ind)
qualifier v M Norman (Swe)
R Fromberg (Aus) v T Larkham (Aus)
P Tramacchi (Aus) v (7) C Moyà (Sp)
(4) J BJORKMAN (Swe) v A Belobrajdic (Aus)
W Ferreira (SA) v J Krosiak (Slovakia)
N Lapentti (Ec) v J Albert Vilaca (So)
E Alvarez (Sp) v F Santoro (Fr)
J Gimelstob (US) v qualifier
qualifier v A O'Brien (US)
A Clement (Fr) v G Pozzi (It)
B Black (Zim) v (14) F MANTILLA (Sp)
(11) A CORRETJA (Sp) v L Arnold (Arg)
D Prinosil (Ger) v J van Herck (Bel)
F Meligeni (Br) v C Pioline (Fr)
S Sargsian (Arm) v J Busillo (Sp)
qualifier v M Rosset (Swi)
V Spadea (US) v J Stalgiak (Aus)
S Draper (Aus) v D Hrbaty (Slovakia)
A Portas (Sp) v (6) P Korda (Cz)

(5) G RUSEDSKI (GB) v qualifier
J Stark (US) v C Costa (Sp)
T Woodbridge (Aus) v F Dewulf (Bel)
C Ruud (Nor) v qualifier
T Johansson (Swe) v F Quillad (Arg)
M Ondruska (SA) v R Reneberg (US)
N Escude (Fr) v M Larsson (Swe)
qualifier v (12) G KUERTEN (Br)
(13) G IVANISEVIC (Cro) v J Siemerink (Holl)
qualifier v T Henman (GB)
M Greco (Ger) v qualifier
N Kiefer (Ger) v qualifier
M Tebbut (Aus) v M Filippini (Uru)
W Black (Zim) v B Steven (NZ)
G Raoux (Fr) v S Stolle (Aus)
K Carlsen (Den) v (3) M CHANG (US)
(8) T MUSTER (Austria) v qualifier
T Nydahl (Swe) v L Roux (Fr)
A Radulescu (Ger) v K Alami (Mor)
R Furlan (It) v J Alonso (Sp)
J Stoltenberg (Aus) v G Blanco (Sp)
qualifier v J Knippschild (Ger)
T Enqvist (Swe) v J A Marin (Sp)
G Stafford (SA) v (9) M RIOS (Chile)
(16) A COSTA (Sp) v T Haas (Ger)
qualifier v A Agassi (US)
O Gross (Ger) v M-K Göllner (Ger)
A Gaudenzi (It) v D Pescariu (Rom)
A Berasategui (Sp) v qualifier
L Smith (Aus) v A Medvedev (Ukr)
J Sánchez (Sp) v T Martin (US)
J Tarango (US) v (2) P RAFTER (Aus)

(1) M HINGIS (Swi) v W Probst (Ger)
B Rittner (Ger) v qualifier
E Callens (Bel) v C Morariu (US)
A Kournikova (Russ) v K Studenikova (Slovakia)
Y Basuki (Indo) v T Mellen (US)
K Boogert (Holl) v qualifier
P Hy-Boulais (Can) v T Snyder (US)
R Sampson (Can) v (14) O VAN ROOST (Bel)
(11) B SCHULTZ-McCARTHY (Holl) v M Maruska (Austria)
H Nagova (Slovakia) v A Wunderlich (US)
M McGrath (US) v Y Yoshida (Japan)
R Reid (Aus) v E Likhovtseva (Russ)
qualifier v C Rubin (US)
O Barabanschikova (Bela) v D Chladkova (Cz)
C Torrens-Valero (Sp) v O Lugina (Ukr)
L Fang (China) v (5) M PIERCE (Fr)
(3) A COETZER (SA) v B Paulus (Austria)
L Neiland (Lat) v C Barclay (Aus)
K Brandi (US) v A Ellwood (Aus)
J Halard-Decugis (Fr) v N Kijimuta (Japan)
A Gavaldon (Mex) v J Kruger (SA)
S Jeyaseelan (Can) v P Sung-hee (S Kor)
qualifier v H Sukova (Cz)
S Pitkowski (Fr) v (10) A HUBER (Ger)
(16) A SUGIYAMA (Japan) v M-A Sánchez Lorenzo (Sp)
M Endo (Japan) v M Seidl (Japan)
M Grzybowska (Pol) v C Cristea (Rom)
N Velayanathan (Ind) v G Pizzichini (It)
qualifier v qualifier
A Glass (Ger) v R Hiraki (Japan)
E Makarova (Russ) v L Golarsa (It)

J Lee (US) v (7) A SANCHEZ-VICARIO (Sp)
(8) C MARTINEZ (Sp) v S Kloesel (Ger)
K Kunce (Aus) v M Oremans (Holl)
S Kleinova (Cz) v V Ruano-Pascual (Sp)
L Nemeckova (Cz) v A-G Sidot (Fr)
F Lubiani (It) v T Panova (Russ)
M Diaz-Oliva (Arg) v B Schett (Aus)
qualifier v R Grande (It)
N Zvereva (Bela) v (12) S APPELMANS (Bel)
(9) S TESTUD (Fr) v G Leon-Garcia (Sp)
J Kandarr (Ger) v S Drake-Brockman (Aus)
J Husarova (Slovakia) v H Inoue (Japan)
M Maleeva (Bul) v A Sersi (Cz)
T Tanasugarn (Tha) v M Alejandra Vento (Ven)
E Wagner (Ger) v J Watanabe (US)
R Stubbs (Aus) v M Lucic (Cro)
N Sawamatsu (Japan) v (4) I MAJOLI (Cro)
(6) I SPIRLEA (Rom) v S Williams (US)
A Dechaume-Balleret (Fr) v V Williams (US)
A Maurismo (Fr) v S Farina (It)
E Gagliardi (Mex) v S Pischke (Austria)
W Shi-ting (Taiwan) v I Gorrochategui (Arg)
N Dechy (Fr) v P Schnyder (Switz)
S Dopfer (Austria) v N Miyagi (Japan)
N Pratt (Aus) v (13) L RAYMOND (US)
(15) R DRAGOMIR (Rom) v M Babel (Ger)
M Seima (Sp) v R McQuillen (Aus)
K-A Guse (Aus) v F Labat (Arg)
A Carlsson (Swe) v E Dominikovic (Aus)
T Musgrave (Aus) v P Suarez (Arg)
S Cacic (It) v F Perfetti (It)
K Rabsudova (Slovakia) v qualifier
A Cocheteux (Fr) v (2) L DAVENPORT (US)


*Help secure your family's future for 20p a day.*




In an ideal world you will always be there for your family. But should *the worst happen would they be able to cope without you?*

For the monthly equivalent of 20p* a day you could help safeguard your family's financial future.

Legal & General's Family Protection Plan will ensure that the lump sum is paid should you die during the term you select. It's easy to budget for as you only pay a premium for a fixed period of time, and the amount you pay each month stays the same.

HOW LITTLE IT COULD COST YOU

| BENEFIT | TERM | PER DAY |
|---|---|---|
| £50,300 | 15 yrs | 20p* |
| £90,000 | 15 yrs | 31p† |

Based on a male non-smoker aged 30 years. (Acceptance subject to individual details.)

*For a quotation call the* number below. Alternatively, contact your financial adviser.

*Equivalent to £6.08 a month †Equivalent to £9.33 a month

FREE KID'S UMBRELLA when your application is accepted and first premium paid.

FOR AN INSTANT QUOTE ON LOW COST COVER CALL FREE ON:

0500 33 66 66

QUOTING THE REFERENCE NUMBER C3/D102

*Lines are open 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday and Sunday.*
*For your protection, calls on this number will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.*

Legal & General

trust us to deliver

Further information on Legal & General products is available on our Website http://www.legal-and-general.co.uk

Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please contact us at the address below.

*Legal & General Direct Limited is a representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name.*

Legal & General Direct Limited. Registered in England No.2703080 Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP

# FOOTBALL SATURDAY

## Rob Hughes discovers England among a favoured few before the European championship draw

# Financial muscle pays dividends

One fine day, footballers and coaches will be given the most precious thing in sport — time to prepare body and mind for one tournament at a time. In the Belgian city of Ghent tomorrow lunchtime, Glenn Hoddle, Craig Brown and 47 other national team coaches will learn their fate at the draw for the 2000 European championship. Qualifying matches begin in September.

The best players on the Continent will barely be able to absorb the pleasure or pain of the World Cup finals this summer, or to rest adequately for the clubs who pay their wages, before being consumed again by the insatiable demands of television, sponsorship and profit.

"The poor millionaires", I hear you cry, yet if there are substandard performances from tired athletes, if the relentlessness dulls or breaks Shearer, Bergkamp or Raúl, the sport is the ultimate loser.

England, at least, are granted a privilege that Scotland, Wales and Ireland cannot count on because they are assured of heading a group of five countries. That means they will have eight games to fit into the schedule, whereas the majority in other groups must play ten, plus possible play-offs, between September, 1998 and October, 1999. The finals are co-hosted by Belgium and Holland from June 10 to July 2, 2000 — by when, of course, qualifying looms for the 2002 World Cup.

This privilege to England is a matter of status and money. Germany, Italy and Spain will get similar preferential treatment because these are the "Big Four", the countries that attract the widest television audiences and therefore the greatest pay-off. If strict order of merit applied — calculated on qualifying performances over the last European championship and last World Cup — Germany and Spain would still rank No 1 and No 2, but Romania and Russia would be above England, with Italy a further three places back, behind Yugoslavia and Scotland.

Yet expediency is a blessing to the small nations and the former East European states, whose independence swells the Uefa family to 51 associations. In this championship, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Andorra are new entries. There is still only room for 16 finalists and if Uefa culled the numbers by a prequalifying round, it would retard the progress of developing nations.

**KICKING OFF EURO 2000 – HOW THE DRAW TOMORROW WORKS**

Belgium and Holland qualify automatically as joint-hosts for the 16-nation European championship finals in 2000. The other 49 countries are divided into nine qualifying groups – four comprising six teams and five of five. The pots are based on results in the qualifying competitions for the 1996 European championship and the 1998 World Cup and are based on level of achievement, pot A being the top seeds. Four nations – Germany, Italy, Spain and England – are guaranteed to be top seed in a group of five and the other five-team group will be headed by one of the other five countries from pot A after a draw. Group winners and the best runner-up qualify automatically with the other eight runners-up playing off home and away against each other for the remaining four places.

| POT A | POT B | POT C | POT D | POT E |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Germany | Bulgaria | Ireland | Poland | Belarus |
| Spain | Denmark | Switzerland | Hungary | Slovenia |
| Romania | Croatia | Sweden | Northern Ireland | Armenia |
| Russia | Portugal | Ukraine | Bosnia-Herzegovina | Faeroe Isles |
| England | Austria | Lithuania | Latvia | Albania |
| Yugoslavia | France | Slovakia | FYR Macedonia | Luxembourg |
| Scotland | Czech Republic | Finland | Cyprus | Moldova |
| Italy | Turkey | Israel | Wales | Azerbaijan |
| Norway | Greece | Georgia | Iceland | Estonia |
| | | | | Malta |
| | | | | Liechtenstein |
| | | | | San Marino |
| | | | | Andorra |

Egidius Braun, the chairman of the organising committee, could be pressed to justify the apparent favouritism of England, Germany, Italy and Spain. He would be obliged to admit that Germany, his own country, wanted to play even fewer qualifying matches and proposed 14 groups involving only three or four teams. The big four could make more money through friendly internationals than having to accommodate Latvia, Azerbaijan or Luxembourg.

Uefa resisted Germany's demands. In effect, its policy adopts the Peter-pays-Paul principle, allowing the small countries to earn more in two glamour nights than their budgets for two years. The larger the group, the greater chance the minnows have to make money and to keep alive the so-called romance of cup football.

The random essence of the draw is assisted by Paul van Himst and Johan Cruyff, ex-players both. Their hands in the pots could give England a comfortable ride against, say, Greece, Lithuania, Cyprus and San Marino — or a testing quartet of Denmark, Ukraine, Poland (again!) and either Armenia or Albania.

The weekend will also be used to promote the candidacy of Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, to lead Fifa, the world governing body, from next June. Johansson's bywords — democracy and transparency — would be revolutionary after 24 years of João Havelange autocracy.

Also on Uefa's agenda is a coordinated coaching register to permit coaches and managers full recognition from one big European football country to another — for example, a qualified Danish coach being allowed to train a Bundesliga club in Germany without having to resit his exams.

Another likely debate concerns limiting investors to one club, one country and one European competition. The danger of a conflict of interest arises because Joe Lewis, a Bahamas-based currency trader, holds a £40 million stake in Rangers, as well as effectively owning AEK Athens, Vicenza, in Italy, and Slavia Prague. The Rangers' investment is not a problem this season — the other three clubs all being in the Cup Winners' Cup could be.

The £500,000 donation by Uefa to the International Red Cross provision of surgery, artificial limbs and rehabilitation recently enabled Georgian landmine amputees to rediscover football and will take the joy of the game back to Angolan victims this Spring. In such a cause, the pragmatism and profiteering of football is diverted to a purpose.

# Italian job can be arduous task

BRIAN GLANVILLE





Hodgson, ultimately unfulfilled in Italy, leaves the San Siro for the last time as manager of Internazionale. Photograph: Ben Radford/Allsport

Call me Mister! Italian footballers still do. Mister, an implicit tribute to English coaches down the years, is how they all address their managers. Which makes it more strange that Roy Hodgson, who managed Internazionale until almost the end of last season, should recently "have discovered the Italians don't like employing English players, or coaches, for that matter".

He went on to say: "Italians are over here in numbers, although with the exception of Gianfranco Zola — and Fabrizio Ravanelli before him — they tend to be players who can't hold down a job over there."

These are odd statements, neither of which bears close examination, and you wonder why Hodgson felt moved to make them. A hidden agenda is perhaps to be found, and I think one finds it in the disappointment, the ultimate anticlimax, of his time in Milan.

Beyond doubt, Hodgson is a coach of exceptional gifts. With the skimpiest credentials as a professional footballer, he developed into one of the leading managers on the Continent, wonderfully successful in Sweden with Malmö and later with the Switzerland national team, whom he took to the World Cup finals for the first time for 28 years and to the European championship finals, two years ago, for the first time ever.

But Italian football was, and is, another story. It was clear that it was beginning to torment Hodgson before a ball was officially kicked last season, when he subjected Italian journalists to a fierce rebuke, accusing them of talking up Inter's chances of the championship so that other clubs could hide behind them.

Some weeks later, he addressed a press conference in English, although he is quite capable of speaking in Italian, because, he said, he was sick of being misinterpreted, and appalled by some of the things that had been written about him. Although his contract was renewed by Massimo Moratti, Inter's volatile president, in November 1996, things were going awry as the season reached its climax.

Unwisely, Hodgson got out of his car at the training ground to remonstrate with and jerk an offensive banner out of the hands of a fan. When, logically enough, he substituted Zanetti, the Argentine, late in the Uefa Cup final against Schalke 04, so that he could put on a penalty-taker, there was an unpleasant confrontation. Then, with two games still to play in the league and Inter in with at least a notional chance of coming second, and reaching the European Cup Champions' League, Hodgson resigned.

George Raynor would have understood how he felt. In the mid-Fifties, when the little Yorkshireman, himself so successful with the Sweden team, was managing Lazio while Jesse Carver was managing AS Roma, Raynor was heard to say, wretchedly: "I always thought football was a game for gentlemen."

Lazio then was a snakepit. Raynor took over in mid-season to find a faction led by the vice-president, the egregious Count Vaselli, hellbent on sacking him. The president, Tessarolo, and the players largely stood by him. Raynor turned the tide and kept Lazio up.

But Carver, a canny Liverpudlian, knew how to make things work for him. In his first season, he won the championship with Juventus, only to be sacked when a journalist betrayed him by publishing his criticisms of the directors.

His players adored him. His Italian was appalling . . . which makes you wonder why Gigi Lentini, Torino's star winger, should say that Graeme Souness's inability to communicate in Italian had been one reason why he failed there this season.

It never troubled Carver, and perhaps by the same token it should not trouble Christian Gross, Tottenham Hotspur's Swiss coach, who uttered the word "wrongest" on television last Saturday, and the day before spoke such incomprehensible English on another programme that a malign interviewer suggested we should turn to Ceefax for subtitles.



Hodgson, left, and Ince in training at Internazionale

True, there was a long hiatus before Hodgson became the latest English manager in Italian football, but William Garbutt, a pre-First World War Blackburn Rovers and Manchester United winger, coached in Italy for years. Bill Lievesley was managing Torino when he died in the 1949 Superga air crash.

Of British players, can Hodgson have forgotten how much Paul Ince meant to Inter and how reluctant they were to lose him? David Platt had success in Italy; John Charles was an icon at Juventus, where Liam Brady was also later a favourite.

As for the Italian players over here, Attilio Lombardo and Roberto Di Matteo, like Zola, are members of the national squad. Benito Carbone, whom Hodgson sold at Inter, and Paolo Di Canio have distinguished themselves with Sheffield Wednesday.

Hodgson suffered in Italy, but his views do seem a trifle subjective.

## Misconduct charge levelled at Parker

By Russell Kempson

GARRY PARKER, the Leicester City midfield player, has been charged with misconduct by the Football Association for his behaviour during a Sunday league match. He has been given 14 days to decide whether to seek a personal hearing.

Parker, 32, regularly runs the line for Cherwell Lions, the Morrells Oxford Sunday League fourth division side, which is managed by his father-in-law, Ray Timms. He lost his patience during the game against Cowley Cosmos on December 7 and allegedly made comments to the match referee, who reported the incident to the Oxfordshire FA. It, in turn, sent the report to Lancaster Gate.

Carlton Palmer, the Southampton midfield player, has been charged by the FA for making comments to Gerald Ashby, the referee, after he had awarded a penalty to Derby County in their FA Cup third-round tie on January 3. Palmer has declined a personal hearing and the matter will be dealt with by letter.

The FA has yet to receive a reply from Terry Fenwick, the former Portsmouth manager, who has been charged with misconduct after exchanging words with Uriah Rennie, the referee, after the 2-2 draw with Aston Villa at Fratton Park, also on January 3.

Sasa Curcic, the Aston Villa midfield player, must wait until at least the end of the season for his proposed move to Besiktas, the Turkish club, to go through. Curcic, who joined Villa from Bolton Wanderers for £4 million 18 months ago, spoke with John Toshack, the Besiktas coach, but was unable to agree a deal before the Turkish transfer deadline on Thursday.

"Sasa has been out there but things are not going to happen at the moment," Brian Little, the Villa manager, said yesterday. "There is still interest from over there but it's looking like it might be the summer before anything happens."

Ireland are to meet Argentina, who will play in the World Cup finals in France in June, in a friendly international at Lansdowne Road on April 22. They will also play the Czech Republic in Prague on March 25 and meet Mexico in Dublin on May 23.

Northern Ireland will take on Romania, England's World Cup opponents, in Bucharest on May 30. They will then travel to Santander to play Spain on June 3.

## Gayle seeks support for Jamaica invitation

By Matt Dickinson

MARCUS GAYLE is calling on the Football Association, and possibly even Fifa, football's world governing body, to settle his dispute with Wimbledon over playing for Jamaica. The London-born striker has turned to arbitration after the club claimed that there was a clause in his contract that gave it a right of veto over his international career.

The row has developed since Gayle decided to accept Jamaica's invitation to join their squad, which has qualified for the World Cup finals. Wimbledon would be happy for him to play for England but not for Jamaica, particularly given the number of injuries that have affected their strikers and because of the number of FA Carling Premiership matches that he would miss through international duty.

"Obviously, the No 1 priority is things here," Gayle said yesterday. "It would hurt me as much as anyone if Wimbledon were relegated or we did not go as far in the FA Cup as we could, but I would also be crazy to ignore international football.

"Every footballer likes to think they could play at that level and I feel I have got a lot to offer. I am not bothered about people saying I am just jumping on the World Cup bandwagon, because I know that is not the case and so do the Jamaicans.

"It was a joint decision to go to the FA to try and sort things out, or if we have to go to Fifa. Hopefully, they can iron out the problems and whatever is causing the debate in the contract. I just want to get started."

Another chapter was added yesterday to the long-running saga of Wimbledon's effort to find a new ground when Wimbledon Greyhound Stadium was ruled out as an option. A two-year feasibility study has revealed that any attempt to convert the stadium to cater for football would be unrealistic because of insufficient parking and seating capacity.

Sam Hammam, the club's former owner, said: "I understand the frustration and anxiety of our supporters. As far as our future is concerned, only one thing is certain — we will not play at Selhurst Park. That would be suicidal. Options do include Gatwick and Dublin and I will actively pursue both, but my priority is Merton."

# Self-promotion puts clubs in league of their own

Off the line

by Russell Kempson

IN A month of possibly unprecedented publicity for the Vauxhall Conference, mostly from Stevenage Borough's new-found high profile and the thousands of newspaper column inches it can expect to occupy this week, one might have thought that the Conference was happy with its lot. Not so, apparently. It objects to the term "non-league" that is used to prefix its clubs.

"Non-league is a disservice to the huge endeavours of the clubs at our level," John Moules, the Conference secretary, said. "We merit a far more respectful description." Basically, he means that the image of dilapidated grounds, amid disused wasteland, rutted pitches and changing facilities unfit for human habitation is long gone.

So, in the age of political correctness, what does one call a club not of Football League status? Perhaps "Salary-challenged"? Or how about "Non-Premiership", or "League-aspiring"? Or maybe "Semi-employed", "Half-professional" or even "Sadly-supported"? Certainly not "Self-important". Answers on a postcard to . . .

### Senior service

When Ian Senior, 37, recently signed for Bamber Bridge, of the UniBond League premier division, it was the fortieth time in his career that he had registered with a non-league — sorry, salary-challenged — club. The wandering goalkeeper's many clubs include Accrington Stanley, Chorley, Radcliffe Borough and Atherton LR. He made his debut for his new club against Accrington, but was given a rude reception by the terrace wags. "There was some unkind comments about the size of my rear and they wanted to know how many grandchildren I've got," Senior said. "But I had the last laugh." Bamber Bridge won 2-1.

### Stamp of approval

FABRIZIO RAVANELLI may have upset everybody from Middlesbrough to Marseilles, but he is much loved on Dominica, the West Indian island. Dominica launched the 1998 World Cup qualifying series against Antigua and is now bringing out a commemorative stamp, featuring Ravanelli, for the finals next year. How can he now fail to deliver?

*Most match programmes steer clear of offending their footballing neighbours. Yet Gary Purser, in his supporters' club notes in* The Royal, *the organ of Reading FC, takes great delight in the misfortune of Swindon Town — or S*****n T**n, as he refers to them, as he cannot bring himself to actually write the words. He has also labelled them "ovine enthusiasts" and "Wiltshire shepherds" and theorised that the reason for the club's lack of fans for the match at Elm Park last August was because it clashed with a tractor fair. Purser is guaranteed a warm welcome at the County Ground this afternoon.*

### Numbers game

When Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, signed Carl Leaburn, the Charlton Athletic striker, he said: "We need a big target man. We have lots of No 10s at the club, but we need a No 9." Leaburn wore No 11 for Charlton this season.

Christian Gross, the beleaguered head coach of Tottenham Hotspur, is into bonding. Get the lads together off the pitch, share an evening of fun and festivity and everything will be all right on it. He hopes. Accordingly, Gross is trying to arrange a trip to see Cirque du Soleil at the Albert Hall to take his players' minds off the relegation campaign that surely lies ahead. Also on the agenda is a visit to Anton Mosimann's renowned eaterie in Belgrave Square.

"It is good that the players go out together, to musicals, concerts and things like that," Gross said. "It is good for the harmony of the whole team. Our first job as professionals is to concentrate on the pitch, but we are not only dealing with a soccer matter. It is about team spirit, too." Cirque du Soleil is a bizarre multinational troupe, originally from Quebec, which features muscle-men, contortionists, trampolinists and trapeze artists. Oh . . . and clowns.

**STRANGE BUT TRUE:** First out of the hat in the FA Cup fourth-round draw was Huddersfield Town (or Bournemouth) versus Wimbledon (or Wrexham). Huddersfield and Wimbledon duly won through to meet each other. First out of the hat in the Women's FA Cup fourth-round draw was . . . Huddersfield v Wimbledon.

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1998. Published and printed in England by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kirby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 6HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل



ıip draw

duct
ge
ed
ker

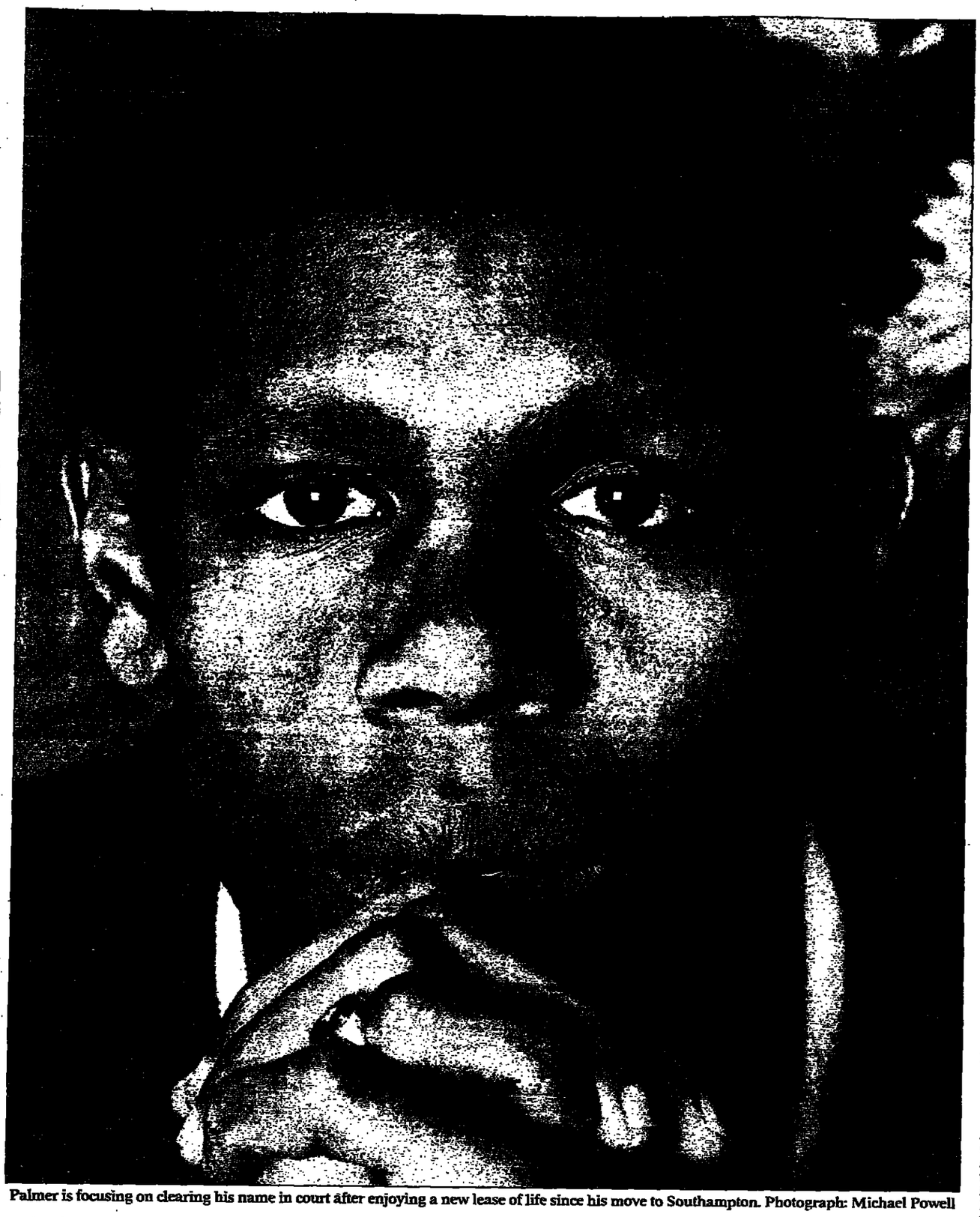
Gayle set
suppor
for Jama
invitati



FOOTBALL SATURDAY

Scapegoat of England's ill-fated 1994 World Cup campaign revels in new recognition of talent on South Coast

# Creation of a saint inspires Palmer



Palmer is focusing on clearing his name in court after enjoying a new lease of life since his move to Southampton. Photograph: Michael Powell



**OLIVER HOLT**



The soul of Carlton Palmer is still in torment. His appeal against a conviction for sexually assaulting an 18-year-old woman in a crowded bar almost a year ago should have been heard in Leeds last Thursday. Instead, it was adjourned until the end of this month. It is eating at him. it is obsessing him. But there is one thing that should give him solace: in his professional life, he knows already what it is to have his reputation restored.

In the months since he moved from Leeds United to Southampton and helped to transform the South Coast club from apparent FA Carling Premiership no-hopers into a side with a fighting chance of escaping relegation, redemption has laid its comforting hand on the footballer in Palmer in the form of weekly rave reviews. If it is not his manager, Dave Jones, praising him to the skies, it is Alan Hansen admitting his surprise on *Match of the Day*.

Suddenly, the calumnies that were heaped upon him in the wake of England's failure to qualify for the World Cup finals in the United States in 1994 have been taken back. They said then that he was the worst player to be picked for the national side, but now the assassins have shrunk back into the shadows as quickly as they once emerged.

Part of the problem, perhaps, was that he was tainted by his association with the regime of Graham Taylor and made a standard-bearer for mediocrity by those observers too pragmatic to examine the consistent excellence of his performances for his club, too lazy to look beyond the image of a wisecracking antihero, Paul Gascoigne's soul-mate, that came across in the infamous documentary, *An Impossible Job*.

Palmer, in fact, is far removed from that image. First and foremost, he is instantly likeable, mainly because he is endearingly frank and trusting for someone who has more reason than most footballers to be sullen and suspicious of the media. He has a sense of humour, too, but what defines him is his forthright manner and the articulacy and frankness of his views.

Still, even a high-profile move to Leeds United in that World Cup summer did not do the trick of fixing his footballing reputation. The supporters voted him their player of the year, but the gradual erosion of the authority of Howard Wilkinson made for unhappy times at the club and Palmer was dragged down with them. When George Graham took over, it soon became clear that he and Palmer were a match made in hell and stories started to circulate that the midfield player was a trouble-maker.

Now, though, he is flourishing again in the positive, forward-thinking environment constructed at The Dell by Jones. To say this two years ago would have been considered heresy, but I watched him at Goodison Park against Everton earlier in the season and he looked like that rare thing, the complete midfield player.

He made Southampton's first goal that day by stopping a full-back's run with a tackle that was clean and perfectly-timed and then striking a cross-field ball fully 40 yards to David Hirst. Hirst cut inside, crossed and Matthew Le Tissier scored with a header that set up Southampton for a 2-0 victory.

> "At Goodison, he looked like that rare thing – the complete midfield player"

His stamina is awe-inspiring, his fitness bewildering. He is the workaholic antidote to the fripperies of Le Tissier, the grafter who fills the gaps left by the Channel Islander.

"He has lifted the place," Jones said last week. "He never lets anyone rest either in his own team or the opposition." Palmer sits in the front room of his house on a hillside outside Sheffield, cradling his daughter, Kelly, and says he does not know what all the fuss is about. Even in those dark days under Taylor, he has always thought he has been beyond reproach.

"When things go wrong, things like England not qualifying for the World Cup, people always need scapegoats," Palmer said. "The manager was a scapegoat and certain players were scapegoats and I happened to be one of those players. For whatever reason, I cannot say. I played well in the majority of the internationals I was involved in, but we didn't qualify and all of a sudden I am the one who took the brunt of it.

"Sometimes, if you do not fit into people's ideals of how a footballer should be, it goes against you. I don't look the most attractive footballer, being 6ft 3in and a little bit gangly, so I don't fit into a stereotype of what a footballer is supposed to look like. I have always come under criticism for that, but I find it hard to believe. I go to Southampton and find it strange how people all of a sudden are saying 'he's playing well'. To me, I've been playing well all my time at Leeds. It is just that George Graham left me out of the side for seven games."

Graham, it would be fair to say, is not one of Carlton Palmer's favourites. Palmer, 32, has a list of grudges as long as your arm about his former manager, some relating to his treatment as a player, some to more sinister influences he believes Graham can exert.

It seems that the initial problem between them stemmed from Palmer's desire for independence within Graham's regimented system, a desire that Palmer says Graham could not countenance. The result was a long and bitter spell in the cold that left Palmer contemplating an early retirement as the furore over his court case raged around him.

"I know it costs me dearly at times," he said, "but I am my own man. I speak and do as I please. If I don't agree with something — which is one of the reasons I clashed with George Graham — if I don't agree with him, I tell him. If I don't feel I can work with a person, I tell him. I went to him and said to him I didn't agree with the way he did things. In my opinion, he is a control freak. Well, he is not going to control me.

"I love playing football so whether he is manager or anybody is a manager, I do whatever I can do to play on Saturday and win on Saturday, but I won't be controlled. I won't be told I can do this or I can do that when it suits a person. Okay, he had been successful before but then he had people who didn't really speak and think for themselves.

"During the summer, I had a long think about it and I thought seriously about quitting the game. With all the bad media, with the court cases as well, I felt I deserved better than what was happening to me. I have got a wife, Jenny, and a family and the pressure that it put them under, I thought 'is it worth it any longer'.

"A lot of people in the game who I respect — Chrissy Waddle, Ian Rush, Ron Atkinson, people like that — said I would be crazy to quit. So I decided that I would get fitter than I have ever been before — and fitness has always been one of the strongest parts of my game — and I would go back and give it the best shot possible and if it didn't work out in two or three months then I would look again at the situation.

"But suddenly, I was finding out I had a bad name in the game. I knew where that was coming from. Nobody would touch me. I thought I would sit down and wait and then a mutual friend of Dave Jones came to see me and said 'what about coming to Southampton'. I said 'do me a favour, I don't even know where Southampton is, never mind going to play for them'.

"They were bottom of the league and I thought I was better than that. Then Jenny turned round and said 'Well, if you're better than that, where are all the clubs queuing up to sign you' which was a fact. So I agreed to meet him and I made it clear to him that I had to get on with him first. We met about three or four times and we really got on like a house on fire, really did. It has been an unbelievable move. My only problem at Southampton will be is if he is no longer manager but for the moment, I am very happy there."

And so, on Monday night, the doubters will be able to gaze upon the reborn Carlton Palmer as he marshals Southampton against the rampant champions, Manchester United, at The Dell. They will see a man at peace with his footballing self but battling for the revisionism that has been applied to his professional reputation to be bestowed upon his person.

"This is the first time in my life that something has gone bad for me and I have had to make choices," he said. "Do you just roll up into a corner and show no spine or do you come out fighting. I always believe that things turn out right if you try and do the right things. I will just keep my head down, keep working hard and if I win the court case, I believe that if I keep playing the way I am playing I must have a chance of being picked for England again. 1998 will take on a different meaning for me then."

# Barnsley and the media, the end of the affair

**Mark Hodkinson** condemns those who have deserted the Premiership strugglers

**LIFE AT THE TOP**

The smirk that radiates conceit falls immediately onto faces that were hitherto blank. "A column on Barnsley called 'Life At The Top'? Life at the bottom more like." Hee, hee. Thereafter follows a joke, an old joke with a new, freshly-primed victim. "Have you heard the one about the Barnsley goalkeeper?" We probably have, actually.

Barnsley. Hold your sides, here it comes again — Barnsley. Just to say the word, preferably in an indolent Northern groan, is enough. Where, just a few months ago, it stood for romance, it now stands for ridicule. Barnsley, a nation's cherished underdog, has been disowned.

All the losing has simply got too much. A few narrow defeats and the odd 3-0 loss would not have been too bad, but to concede 57 goals in 22 games and rattle up so many 5-0, 6-0, 7-0 drubbings, is, well, embarrassing. West Ham United turned them over last Saturday and Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, said it was his team's worst performance of the season — and the competition is stiff.

The professional pundits, the Des Lynams and Gary Linekers, have been at the vanguard of the scornmongering. Look at their faces during the preamble to the screening of the latest Barnsley calamity. There is either phoney solemnity that borders on the comical, or a wistful patronising grin. Mark Lawrenson at least had the integrity to say that he thought Barnsley would be relegated; this is less hurtful than the mischievous mockery of a raised eyebrow or a twitch of the lips.

When Barnsley were promoted to the FA Carling Premiership they did not seek eulogy or eminence. They were simply fulfilling a process that had begun some years before. In short they played good football, won rather a lot of matches and, consequently, in the 1996-97 season, gained promotion. The song, the dance, the television special and the parable was someone else's idea.

For their part, Barnsley were happy to oblige. "Interview with Mr Wilson? Sure, step this way." Naturally, they also wanted to sell season tickets and 110 years in the business of football had taught them the importance of patting gift horses affectionately on the saddle.

The club remained wonderfully stoic throughout a long hot summer of media overindulgence. It does not have a designated public relations department, so staff resorted to superannuated virtues such as efficiency and politeness when faced with a thousand and one queries from reporters and producers.

Cameras would linger lovingly over bus stops, terraced houses and a redundant pit head; at any minute someone might have even suggested a musical. The media wanted desperately to sing this ballad of the underdog; Barnsley had little say in the matter.

Barnsley are a typical example of a club adopted as a statement or an addendum of personality. These passive supporters will never be privy to the glorious Bovrilhot intensity of genuine partisanship. They fail to see that the connection between a club and a supporter is from the heart, not the head. Thousands championed Barnsley last year because they felt it revealed themselves as warm-hearted and a believer in dreams. That they should now eschew them is a testimony to their capricious and cynical nature.

Long-term supporters have remained fiercely loyal. Their team might have suffered more heavy defeats than they expected, but they have viewed this season as a holiday, a metaphorical week in the sun after years of the humdrum. They are immensely forgiving and only an obvious lack of effort on the field draws forth serious reproach.

Last week, the female Barnsley contingent had their loyalty further tested when Georgi Hristov, the club's Macedonian striker, issued a broadside high on antagonism, low on subtlety. Barnsley women were ugly and drank too much beer, he claimed, allegedly. "I did not say this," Hristov pleaded at a hastily arranged press conference.

It appears that Hristov's original comments to a Belgrade newspaper were far more benign, though it did not stop the UK media enjoying a laugh at Barnsley's expense. This has understandably caused much consternation in the town and moved a local poet, Ian McMillan, to draft a piquant ode that closes with:

*and let's hope that soon the*
*London press*
*will use another doorstop to*
*drop their mess!*

Abandoned by their newfound fans, besmirched by the media, this is Barnsley's favourite tune. They rather enjoy the sense of isolation, a two-fingers-to-the-world stance. Not for them the broad, bland church of a Manchester United or Chelsea. This is about a district, a town, a community, a family, and everyone else can get lost. Or, get *chuffing* lost, as they say around these parts.



Hristov's comments about local women were misrepresented

# Middlesbrough agree Dublin fee

By Russell Kempson

BRYAN ROBSON, the Middlesbrough manager, has moved swiftly to replenish his stock of players after the departure of Emerson, the Brazilian midfield player, to Tenerife. He has agreed to pay £4 million for Dion Dublin, the Coventry City striker, and will talk with the player and his advisers next week.

Middlesbrough made their interest known as soon as Dublin turned down the offer of a new contract at Highfield Road — believed to be worth £3 million over 3½ years. With £4.2 million to come after Emerson's move to the Canary Islands, Robson was able to finance the transfer.

"Dion is a good player who can play in several positions," Viv Anderson, the assistant manager, said yesterday. "We have agreed a fee but there is a long way to go before he walks in the door. It is not hard and fast he will sign for us; transfer talks have not started with the player. We are hoping to hear something in the next 48 hours."

Middlesbrough, who play Ipswich Town in the Nationwide League first division at the Riverside Stadium this afternoon, need to complement the forward skills of Mikkel Beck and Paul Merson.

Dublin, who has also been linked with Crystal Palace, Wimbledon and Leicester City, would give the attack a more forceful presence. He is likely to play his last game for Coventry at home to Arsenal today.

Martin Gregory, the Portsmouth managing director, has told supporters that it may be some time before the first division club is back on an even keel. After the abrupt departures of Terry Venables, the chairman, and Terry Fenwick, the manager, this week, Gregory will not be making hasty appointments.

"We need a bit of stability at the club for a few weeks before we can make any decisions," Gregory said, after returning yesterday from a business trip to Switzerland. "Nothing is happening at the moment. We have to get the next few games out of the way first." Chris Kamara, the former Bradford City manager, is the favourite to replace Fenwick.

# FOOTBALL SATURDAY

## NEWCASTLE UNITED v BOLTON WANDERERS
Today, 3.0 (sold out)



**Keith Pike**

Kevin Keegan insisted again this week that the purchase of Faustino Asprilla had not cost Newcastle United the championship in 1996, although the facts present a strong argument to the contrary. Is it similarly conceivable that, in a year or two, Kenny Dalglish, his successor as manager, will be reflecting on the 1997-98 season and maintaining that the sale of Asprilla was not the moment that condemned his side to relegation?

The "R" word has not yet figured in the Dalglish lexicon and his argument that there was little point in keeping a player who clearly wanted to return to Parma has some merit. Yet the stark truth facing him and his club's demoralised supporters is that Newcastle need to start winning matches — and soon — if the unthinkable is not to become the unavoidable and the presence of the Colombian, happy or otherwise, surely improved the likelihood of them doing so.

For the record, Newcastle were 12 points clear in the FA Carling Premiership when Asprilla arrived at St James' Park in February, 1996. Three months, one famous outburst by Keegan and 21 points out of 42 later, Manchester United had won the title, by four points.

Dalglish may continue to believe that his team needs only a smattering of luck to turn the corner. What is indisputable is that, over the past eight league games, Newcastle, with two draws and six defeats, are in the worst form in the division.

If that form was to be repeated in the next eight matches, Newcastle would have 28 points. Below them? Only Crystal Palace (27pts), Tottenham Hotspur (27) and Barnsley (26). Manchester United, incidentally, would be 11 points clear of Chelsea at the top.

Speculation over Alan Shearer's possible involvement will dominate the build-up to the match against Bolton Wanderers this afternoon, although so frequent have been Dalglish's changes in formation and personnel that who the returning hero might be playing or sitting alongside is impossible to predict.

Their opponents will certainly be without Thompson and Bergsson (suspended), Holdsworth and Whitlow (injured) and are hardly in the best of shape themselves, but a repeat of Bolton's 1-0 victory over Newcastle last month would see the gap between the sides down to one point. Bolton would certainly still be in deep trouble. Would Dalglish be forced to admit likewise?

NEWCASTLE UNITED (possible, 4-4-2): S Harper — S Watson, A Pistone, D Peacock, S Pearce — K Gillespie, D Hamilton, R Lee, J Beresford — J D Tomasson, J Barnes
BOLTON WANDERERS (possible, 4-4-2): K Branagan — N Cox, A Todd, M Fish, J Phillips — J Pollock, P Frandsen, A Gunnlaugsson, S Sellars — N Blake, R Taylor.
Referee: G Poll

TELEVISION: Today: BBC1, *Match of the Day*, 10.50pm, brief highlights.
PREDICTION: 1-0 (Shearer).



Who are you kitting: Cantona in the infamous grey kit that was abandoned at The Dell and some other truly awful shirts

## FIRST 11 ELEVEN

### TORN OFF A STRIP

*Manchester United visit The Dell on Monday, scene of the great grey shirt debacle of 1996. Just to prove that United were not alone in trampling over the boundaries of good taste, here are some other kits from Hell.*

1. England (away, 1996)
*"It's not grey, it's indigo," said the men from the FA. Yeah, and Gareth Southgate's deadly from 12 yards*

2. Chelsea (away, 1995)
*They know about style on the King's Road*

3. Carlisle United (away, 1997)
*They wanted to look just like Eddie (Stobart, not Waring)*

4. Brighton (away, 1991)
*"A nosebleed in a hurricane," said one Seagulls fan. It had the word NOBO on the front just for good measure*

5. Arsenal (away, 1991)
*The limited edition "Humiliation at the Racecourse Ground" number*

6. Manchester United (away, 1992)
*Nice*

7. Newcastle United (away, 1998)
*"It looks good with jeans", claimed the marketing men. Trouble is, teams rarely take the field wearing jeans*

8. Aston Villa (home, 1988)
*The claret that year was particularly disappointing*

9. Celtic (away, 1990)
*Oh Bhoy*

10. Mexico (goalkeeper's shirt, 1994)
*As worn by Jorge Campos, or was it Compost?*

11. Coventry City (away, 1978)
*Luckily for you, we couldn't find a colour picture of this, but it was brown — honest*

Compiled by Richard Whitehead

## LEICESTER CITY v LIVERPOOL
Today, 3.0 (sold out)



**Matt Dickinson**

And still they have not bought a centre half worthy of the name. Liverpool, that is, who have won five FA Carling Premiership matches on the trot, despite the return to the first team of Phil Babb — and that was only because Kvarme appeared to be going through a crisis of confidence and Ruddock is deemed to be beyond the pale.

One can only hope that the their coaching staff do not regard that run as proof that all is suddenly well with their squad, because, as the FA Cup defeat at home to Coventry City showed, Liverpool will remain fundamentally flawed until they recruit an imposing and trustworthy defender — someone like Matt Elliott, of Leicester City, for instance.

It is a shame, because the rest of the team appears to be coming together as Roy Evans must have hoped when he signed Paul Ince in the summer, a move that was expected to turn great underachievers into potential champions. With Redknapp rediscovering his best form and adding some bite to his wonderful passing, the centre of midfield should be able to give even Manchester United a decent battle. Berger and Leonhardsen work hard and score goals — and McManaman appears to have been to finishing school. Up front, Owen improves every week alongside Fowler, while Riedle is hardly a bad stand-in.

Maybe, just maybe, they can become the team to push United the hardest, but this is the type of game that they must win to do it and it will not be easy. Leicester were only three minutes from winning at Villa Park last week and Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, is unlikely to make any changes to that side.

Indeed, Leicester are among a far from elite group who can claim to have won at Anfield this season and they will go into today's game with confidence bolstered by last week's performance. Yet, like their visitors today, they remain unpredictable — good news for neutrals, but maddening for two of the game's more appealing managers.

LEICESTER CITY (probable, 3-5-2): K Keller — P Kamark, M Elliott, S Walsh — R Savage, P Lennon, G Parker, M Izzet, S Guppy — E Hockey, I Marshall
LIVERPOOL (probable, 4-4-2): D James — J McAteer, P Babb, D Matteo, S Harkness — S Leonhardsen, J Redknapp, P Ince, S McManaman — R Fowler, M Owen
Referee: S Dunn

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, extended highlights.
PREDICTION: Liverpool to sneak it, just.



**David Maddock**

It is hard to know where to start when you manage a team such as Barnsley. There is the little problem of a defence that is not so much leaky as sinking without trace, conceding 57 league goals so far this season and looking set for an impressive century. Should Danny Wilson manage to address that problem, then there is his attack — only 19 goals from 22 games.

Yet Barnsley's home form is quite decent. They have won their past two matches (1-0, of course), offering Wilson something to build on. The only problem, of course, is that Crystal Palace are away specialists.

## BARNSLEY v CRYSTAL PALACE
Today, 3.0 (sold out)

Putting aside the ominous feeling that all three clubs promoted from the Nationwide League last season will go straight back down, one suspects that whoever loses this game will also lose heart in the scrap to rise above the relegation zone. The winner may be inspired enough to string together a few results.

At least Palace have eased their terrible injury problems by signing Tomas Brolin yesterday on extended loan until the end of the season. It is one of football's great mysteries — why did the Swede who dazzled a World Cup finals lose form so completely at Leeds United? One hopes that it will return at Selhurst Park.

BARNSLEY (possible, 3-5-2): D Watson — P Markstedt, M Appleby, A Krican — N Eaden, N Redfearn, E Tinkler, D Shenden, D Barnard — A Ward, C Marcelle.
CRYSTAL PALACE (probable, 3-5-2): K Miller — A Linighan, A Roberts, H Hreidarsson — M Edworthy, N Emblen, S Rodger, J Smith, D Gordon — B Dyer, T Brolin
Referee: P Durkin

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
PREDICTION: Scrappy game, away win.



**Peter Robinson**

Goalkeepers rarely occupy the spotlight, so three cheers to Kevin Pressman. He saves penalties, he scores them — and to think that Sheffield Wednesday beat Watford in the FA Cup in midweek with ten men after Di Canio was dismissed. Perhaps Wednesday will give the Italian's £36,000 fine to Pressman, who converted the decisive penalty in the shoot-out, as a bonus.

All the attention that greeted the Wednesday matchwinner must be seem very strange to Mark Beeney. He is a keeper, too, but since he gets only the odd game — he last played in a 0-0 draw with Derby County a year ago, note the clean sheet — he is just about as anonymous as it is possible to be in the FA Carling Premiership. "One of the unluckiest men in football," George Graham said yesterday and the Leeds United manager should know, because he is the one who never picks him. Still, with Nigel Martyn suspended, Beeney plays today — in a Yorkshire derby, no less. Wish him luck.

## LEEDS UNITED v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY
Today, 3.0

Hopkin returns for Leeds in midfield after tonsillitis and Robertson to the back four after a two-game ban. Wednesday wait on the fitness of Walker, with Stefanovic, back from a one-game suspension, standing by. Carbone hopes to play after two games in the sin-bin.

LEEDS UNITED (possible, 4-4-2): M Beeney — A Mayburry, D Wetherall, L Radebe, D Robertson — G Kelly, L Bowyer, D Hopkin, B Ribeiro — R Wallace, H Kewell
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (possible, 4-4-2): K Pressman — I Nolan, J Newsome, D Walker, M Pembridge — N Alexandersson, P Atherton, G Hyde, P Rudi — P di Canio, A Booth
Referee: M Bodenham

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, extended highlights
PREDICTION: Home win.



**Brian Glanville**

Who is in charge of the clattering train? Christian Gross, the Tottenham Hotspur coach, has warned David Pleat off his patch, but Jürgen Klinsmann seems to be calling the shots, sending injured players off for exotic injections in Germany, implementing the arrival of the problematic Nicola Berti from Internazionale and talking a good game at press conferences. Klinsmann's legitimate complaint that he is not getting the service from midfield could be put right when David Ginola, absent again here, is fit — but would the German profit from it in his present form?

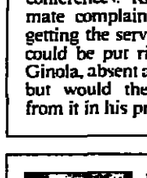
## TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR v WEST HAM UNITED
Today, 3.0 (sold out)

West Ham United, lions at Upton Park, tend to be lambs away from home, but they often do well at White Hart Lane. Hartson and Abou, their strikers, could trouble a Tottenham defence in which Campbell carries a huge burden. The hosts' midfield may be strengthened by the return of Howells. Walker is not yet ready to come back in goal, which means another game for the Baardsen.

West Ham have Lomas back from suspension. Injuries to Breacker and Impey mean that Potts will be at right back. The energy and invention of Berkovic and Lampard should win West Ham the midfield and the match.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (probable, 4-4-2): E Baardsen — S Carr, R Vega, S Campbell, C Wilson — R Fox, C Calderwood, N Berti, S Clemence — J Klinsmann, J Dominguez
WEST HAM UNITED (probable, 3-5-2): C Forrest — I Pearce, R Ferdinand, D Unsworth — J Moncur, S Potts, F Lampard, E Berkovic, S Lazaridis — S Abou, J Hartson
Referee: D Elleray

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
PREDICTION: Away win for West Ham



**Nick Szczepanik**

What is it about Selhurst Park? The landlords, Crystal Palace, have the poorest home record in the FA Carling Premiership and the tenants, Wimbledon, the second-worst. In the latter case, the lack of atmosphere caused by all those empty seats must be a factor: only 6,000-odd saw the FA Cup third-round tie with Wrexham and another assault on the low crowd record is on the cards today. The news yesterday that a move home to Merton is still some way off cannot have been welcomed.

Derby County, in sixth place despite their indifferent away form, expect to be without Dean Sturridge through injury (Deon Burton stands by) in addition to the continued absence through suspension of Darryl Powell. Stefano Eranio and Lee Carsley.

## WIMBLEDON v DERBY COUNTY
Today, 3.0

Wimbledon have no such problems. In fact, after complaining loud and long about their recent lack of striking power (Gayle's goal in the Cup replay at Wrexham on Tuesday was their first by a recognised striker since early November), Joe Kinnear, the manager, finds himself awash in forward riches. Efan Ekoku is fit again and came on as substitute in that midweek victory, while the Cup-tied Carl Leaburn is available again. Kinnear may decide that Carl Cort deserves a rest.

WIMBLEDON (probable, 4-4-2): N Sullivan — K Cunningham, C Perry, D Blackwell, A Kimble — N Ardley, T Jones, R Earle, M Hughes — C Leaburn, M Gayle
DERBY COUNTY (probable, 3-4-3): M Poom — D Yates, I Simpe, C Daily — G Rowett, J Laurent, J Hunt, C Powell — F Baiano, P Warnapo, D Burton
Referee: P Jones

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
PREDICTION: Low crowd, low score draw.



**Russell Kempson**

It is a mad, mad, mad, mad world when Dion Dublin can turn down an offer of £16,000 a week from Coventry City, an FA Carling Premiership club, and then open discussions for greater rewards with Middlesbrough, a Nationwide League first division club.

Few will dispute that Dublin is one of the more vibrant performers of his trade — Stan Collymore take note — and that he shortchanges nobody, whether playing up front, his favoured position, or as an emergency central defender. Yet the spiralling wage demands of even average players have reached grotesque proportions. It is almost out of control. It is frightening.

"Clubs will go to the wall if this continues," Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, said yesterday, "and I mean big clubs, too. We have got to make a stand, we have got to be sensible. The days of the millworker have gone. The worker now earns more than the manager, much more."

Middlesbrough and Coventry have agreed a £4 million fee for Dublin, but much hard bargaining needs to be done before he decamps to Teesside. Though his mind might be elsewhere today, perhaps dreaming of the promised land, he will play against Arsenal at Highfield Road.

While Coventry expect little more than Premiership survival, Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, has to produce trophies, preferably of the championship variety. Though his side lies 12 points behind Manchester United, albeit with a game in hand, Wenger has yet to concede defeat. "Our position is still not bad," he said. "We can still fight for the top."

The absence of the hamstrung Ian Wright will not help his cause this afternoon. Forget it, Arsène; concentrate on the cups.

## COVENTRY CITY v ARSENAL
Today, 3.0

COVENTRY CITY (probable, 4-4-2): M Hedman — R Nilsson, R Shaw, P Williams, D Burrows — P Telfer, W Boland, N Wholan, G Boateng — D Dublin, D Huckerby
ARSENAL (probable, 4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, S Bould, M Keown, N Winterburn — R Parlour, E Petit, P Vieira, M Overmars — N Anelka, D Bergkamp
Referee: S Lodge.

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, extended highlights.
PREDICTION: Pulsating draw.

**ON MONDAY**

**Brilliant insights or hopeless guesses? Check our writers' predictions against their weekend match reports**



**Michael Henderson**

Blackburn Rovers, beaten 3-1 at Derby County last week, have done very well to keep Manchester United in their sights (almost) and are only one point behind Chelsea, the team everybody wants to watch, or so we are constantly told. They will not win the championship, but that should not be held against them. In his solid, unamplified way, Roy Hodgson is proving what an able coach he is.

Today's match brings together a town team that plays above itself (or others' estimation of it) against a city club that often behaves as if it belonged to a village. Aston Villa, of the wonderful name and splendid ground, continue to disappoint their admirers. It is one of football's mysteries that they often attract fewer fans than they did when they were winning the third division title 26 years ago. They might usefully ask themselves which of these clubs was the last to win the championship, and why.

Try as they might, Villa still cannot get it quite right. "Miss-a-lotevic" and Collymore make an ineffective pairing, although Yorke, who has been missing in recent weeks, returns to league action today. No wonder Joachim, the odd man out, complained last week about not getting a fair crack of the whip — although, if Brian Little ever does get his whip out, perhaps he should first use it on Collymore's backside. Has any player in the game's history been rewarded so handsomely for achieving so little?

Still, Little, the Villa manager, has other things to ponder, too, not least the likely absence today of Scimeca and Southgate, one of whom might have expected a game in central defence, and of Draper, the midfield player. Southgate has an ankle problem and the other two sore hamstrings left over from midweek and the signs are that either Grayson or Taylor will drop back into defence and Hendrie and Nelson will take to the midfield.

Blackburn are without Bohinen, who has injured a calf muscle and is hardly a regular anyway, while Flitcroft, another midfield player, makes way for McKinlay.

## BLACKBURN ROVERS v ASTON VILLA
Today, 3.0

BLACKBURN ROVERS (probable, 4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, S Henchoz, C Hendry, G Croft — S Ripley, T Sherwood, W McKinlay, D Duff — K Gallacher, C Sutton.
ASTON VILLA (probable, 3-4-3): M Bosnich — U Ehiogu, S Staunton, S Grayson — F Nelson, J Hendrie, I Taylor, A Wright — D Yorke, S Collymore, S Milosevic.
Referee: K Burge

TELEVISION: Today: *Match of the Day*, brief highlights.
PREDICTION: 2-0.



**David Maddock**

This is it then, the afternoon when we shall know for sure if Chelsea are really going to offer a realistic challenge to Manchester United . . . or confirm to everyone living north of Watford Gap that they are a big bunch of southern softies.

The FA Cup humiliation inflicted by Manchester United was assuaged, partly, by a more comfortable Stamford Bridge encounter with Coventry City last Saturday, but it is not at home that Chelsea must be examined. On their travels this season, especially to the north of the country, they have struggled, losing their way against teams employing old-fashioned English virtues.

Blackburn Rovers and Bolton Wanderers have been the grateful recipients of all three points against Chelsea when they deserved none and now Everton will be waiting. "Stadium and 35,000 fans to support, can't afford to go down" would an apt sign at Goodison Park these days. All help will be gratefully received.

Yet there are signs that Chelsea are beginning to toughen up their act a little. They managed a spectacular victory on their last outing, albeit at Sheffield Wednesday, not noted for their ability to lump wingers into row F. There have also been some strong words from Ruud Gullit, their manager, and a sharpening of the appetite. They must win this game, that much is certain. Defeat would be the end of the line, not only for their title aspirations, but maybe even for Gullit's own ambition in English football.

Everton will be surly hosts, like Blackburn and Bolton before them, and, for all the criticism that they have received of late, their results have been encouraging. Only an inevitable defeat at Manchester United has blotted their copybook in the FA Carling Premiership over the past month and they have even managed two consecutive wins. With Mickael Madar offering the vague possibility of a goal from open play, where none previously existed, they have a real chance of creating a little breathing space from the scramble just behind them — but don't count on it.

## EVERTON v CHELSEA
Tomorrow, 4.0

EVERTON (probable, 3-5-2): T Myhre — C Short, S Bilic, C Tiler — A Thomas, N Barmby, A Grant, G Speed, M Ball — M Madar, D Ferguson.
CHELSEA (probable, 3-5-2): E de Goey — M Duberry, F Leboeuf, D Granville — S Clarke, D Wise, R Di Matteo, B Lambourde, G Le Saux — M Hughes, G Zola.
Referee: A Wilkie

TELEVISION: Tomorrow: Live on Sky Sports 1, 3pm.
PREDICTION: Chelsea to win.

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1998. Published and printed by Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box 495, Virginia street, electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd. PO Box 495, Virginia street, London E1 9XN, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kilfinne Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 5HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

half of 1997

slowly as it drifts to the north of the Gulf of Bothnia, high F will decline

هكذا من الأصل



# FOOTBALL SATURDAY

# How Dalglish put the boot in – and won my admiration

Kenny Dalglish was the reason I signed for Liverpool. It was his reputation, and his stature in the game that persuaded me — and the fact that he gave me a particularly smart pair of boots.

It is the only "bung" I have ever received! I was only a kid, on a visit to Anfield when I met him. He was so impressive and so assured.

Dalglish was carrying a pair of Puma boots, *not available in Britain*. I think he had acquired them during a visit to Tokyo for the World Club Championship. I asked him where I could get a pair, and he said, "Here, you can have them". I know it seems a small gesture, but it was impressive to a wide-eyed kid.

They were about two sizes too big for me, but I wore them anyway. I didn't half look good in them too — even before people knew that the one and only Kenny Dalglish had given them to me.

I signed for Liverpool soon after. I don't suppose there was going to be any other club for me after that meeting. Dalglish was the player-manager, and he had tremendous respect from all the players. He was a great manager for me.

I say all this, because Kenny has been criticised lately, and it seems rather ludicrous. His record is second to none. He won everything at Liverpool, and then repeated the trick at Blackburn Rovers.

He knows how to handle his players. *I was only about 17, and* he brought me into the first-team squad, and made me feel part of the scene. It was a year before I got a game, but I felt part of it.

Kenny was liked. There are successful managers, but not many are successful and liked, too. I learnt from him, just by being around him at training every day. He was a great trainer too, very professional.

*He hasn't lost all that.* OK, Newcastle have had a bad run, but they are still in the FA Cup. They have a decent draw, and if they can put together a good run of results, then I'm sure they will be challenging at the right end of the FA Carling Premiership table.

Dalglish has inherited a difficult situation, and I'm sure he will get it right. In a way, he already has. He has made a profit of about £5 million for the club, got the team *into the Champions' League* and even sorted out the structure at St James' Park. Before he arrived, remember, they didn't have a reserve team.

And all that without Alan Shearer. Kenny may not have the popular touch of Kevin Keegan, and losing Asprilla is a blow, but he will get results, eventually. My advice to all those supporters in the North East who are becoming a bit restless, is to stick with it — you will get more than a pair of boots out of him.

## McMANAMAN'S WORLD



**■ Fowler pays the price**

*There is no better goalscorer in the* country than Robbie Fowler, probably no better goalscorer in Europe. Robbie has been brave enough to admit that he has not been at the top of his game in recent weeks. Every footballer has a spell like this.

Robbie has recognised the problem and has been working on it. He is still Liverpool's top scorer. During the past few weeks that he thinks he has been a bit below par, we have got into a decent position in the league, and reached the semi-finals of the Coca-Cola Cup. Robbie has contributed with some *important goals.*

How anyone can criticise him, is beyond me. His record is unmatched in English football. He scores 30 goals a season, and even with injuries this term, his ratio is excellent. If Liverpool were to try to buy a replacement, it would cost them an Alan Shearer-style transfer fee of £15 million or more, and wages to match. Robbie is invaluable, *because he has that rare gift* of being a natural goalscorer.

Criticism of him has been a little personal, mostly I think, because *he has been negotiating a new* contract. There is a public fascination with footballers' wages, but the figures quoted in some of the *more imaginative newspapers* are well over the top. Players just laugh when they read this stuff, because it is mere speculation, but *it can be difficult when the* supporters start believing it.

The other day, a local radio station held a phone-in dedicated to Robbie's so-called demands. Some people said footballers' wages were disgracefully high, compared with the pittance earned in the nursing profession. I can understand such a response, but the premise of the phone-in was totally inaccurate.

Of course, the top footballers earn good money. *It is one reason* why it is such a glamorous profession, and part of the inspiration for youngsters. But it is only *the players at the top who can* attract the big salaries — and then only for a few years.

Other sportsmen earn far more than footballers. Only the England captain gets anywhere near the top earners in other sports. Footballers are criticised for cashing in on their talent simply because the sport itself attracts more attention than any other.

*The reason Liverpool have gone* to Robbie Fowler and offered him a new contract, is that they know he is the best. They know that to *replace him they would have to* look in the Ronaldo category — and he cost Inter Milan £60 million, didn't he?

**■ Goals make a difference**

I was pleased to receive the Carling Player of the Month Award, because it illustrated that Liverpool have been playing well recently. To win the award is a tribute to the whole team, and the type of football we have been playing.

I noticed, too, that when it was announced I had won, they singled out my goalscoring contribution. Robbie Fowler, watch out! I have scored a few decent goals this season, and there is no doubt that they do bring extra recognition.

*In my last column, I wrote that* people still seem to label me as a skilful player who can't score goals, even though I am at present *the top-scoring midfield player in* the Premiership. Maybe I was wrong. Obviously the awards panel noticed that I had scored a few, and maybe, just maybe, it is time to leave that particular label behind.

STEVE McMANAMAN

# FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

| (Last week's position in brackets) | PLAYED | POINTS | GOAL DIFF | HOME W | HOME D | HOME L | HOME F | HOME A | AWAY W | AWAY D | AWAY L | AWAY F | AWAY A | LAST 10 MATCHES W-D-L | CURRENT STREAK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. MANCHESTER UTD (1) | 22 | 49 | +35 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 32 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 19 | 12 | 8-0-2 | W1 |
| 2. CHELSEA (3) | 22 | 42 | +27 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 20 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 29 | 14 | 6-2-2 | W1 |
| 3. BLACKBURN ROVERS (2) | 22 | 41 | +15 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 25 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 14 | 12 | 5-4-1 | L1 |
| 4. LIVERPOOL (4) | 21 | 40 | +19 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 25 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 7-1-2 | W5 |
| 5. ARSENAL (6) | 21 | 37 | +13 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 23 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 14 | 15 | 3-3-4 | W1 |
| 6. DERBY COUNTY (7) | 22 | 35 | +8 | 8 | 3 | 0 | 23 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 14 | 23 | 4-3-3 | W1 |
| 7. LEEDS UTD (5) | 22 | 35 | +6 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 16 | 12 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 15 | 13 | 5-3-2 | L1 |
| 8. WEST HAM UTD (8) | 22 | 34 | +2 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 24 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 10 | 26 | 5-0-5 | W3 |
| 9. LEICESTER CITY (9) | 22 | 29 | +4 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 13 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 13 | 11 | 2-4-4 | D2 |
| 10. ASTON VILLA (10) | 22 | 27 | -2 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 17 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 13 | 3-4-3 | D2 |
| 11. NEWCASTLE UTD (11) | 21 | 26 | -5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 13 | 13 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 14 | 2-3-5 | L4 |
| 12. SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (16) | 22 | 26 | -11 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 20 | 18 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 14 | 27 | 4-2-4 | W1 |
| 13. SOUTHAMPTON (13) | 22 | 25 | -5 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 18 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 7 | 16 | 5-2-3 | D1 |
| 14. WIMBLEDON (12) | 21 | 24 | -5 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 12 | 16 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 3-3-4 | L2 |
| 15. EVERTON (18) | 22 | 23 | -9 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 14 | 15 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 17 | 2-2-6 | W2 |
| 16. COVENTRY CITY (14) | 22 | 23 | -10 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 17 | 12 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 19 | 3-2-5 | L1 |
| 17. CRYSTAL PALACE (15) | 22 | 23 | -10 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 18 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 14 | 13 | 3-4-3 | L1 |
| 18. BOLTON WANDERERS (17) | 22 | 22 | -14 | 3 | 7 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 10 | 26 | 2-4-4 | D1 |
| 19. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (19) | 22 | 20 | -20 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 12 | 15 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 24 | 2-1-7 | L1 |
| 20. BARNSLEY (20) | 22 | 18 | -38 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 11 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 37 | 2-3-5 | L1 |

## ATTACK

| | Goals scored | Avge |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Manchester Utd | 51 | 2.32 |
| 2. Chelsea | 49 | 2.23 |
| 3. Liverpool | 38 | 1.81 |
| 4. Blackburn | 39 | 1.77 |
| 5. Arsenal | 37 | 1.76 |
| 6. Derby | 37 | 1.68 |
| 7. Sheffield Wed | 34 | 1.54 |
| = West Ham | 34 | 1.54 |
| 9. Leeds | 31 | 1.41 |
| 10. Leicester | 26 | 1.18 |
| = Aston Villa | 26 | 1.18 |
| 12. Southampton | 25 | 1.14 |
| 13. Newcastle | 22 | 1.05 |
| 14. Everton | 23 | 1.04 |
| 15. Wimbledon | 21 | 1.00 |
| 16. Coventry | 21 | 0.95 |
| = Crystal Palace | 21 | 0.95 |
| 18. Barnsley | 19 | 0.86 |
| = Bolton | 19 | 0.86 |
| = Tottenham | 19 | 0.86 |

## DEFENCE

| | Goals conceded | Avge |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Manchester Utd | 16 | 0.73 |
| 2. Liverpool | 19 | 0.90 |
| 3. Chelsea | 22 | 1.00 |
| = Leicester | 22 | 1.00 |
| 5. Blackburn | 24 | 1.09 |
| 6. Leeds | 25 | 1.14 |
| 7. Arsenal | 24 | 1.14 |
| 8. Wimbledon | 26 | 1.24 |
| 9. Aston Villa | 28 | 1.27 |
| 10. Newcastle | 27 | 1.29 |
| 11. Derby | 29 | 1.32 |
| 12. Southampton | 30 | 1.36 |
| 13. Coventry | 31 | 1.41 |
| = Crystal Palace | 31 | 1.41 |
| 15. Everton | 32 | 1.45 |
| = West Ham | 32 | 1.45 |
| 17. Bolton | 33 | 1.50 |
| 18. Tottenham | 39 | 1.77 |
| 19. Sheffield Wed | 45 | 2.04 |
| 20. Barnsley | 57 | 2.59 |

## SCORING TIMES

| Goals per half | 1st | 2nd |
|---|---|---|
| Arsenal | 21 | 16 |
| Aston Villa | 8 | 18 |
| Barnsley | 10 | 7 |
| Blackburn | 26 | 15 |
| Bolton | 9 | 10 |
| Chelsea | 19 | 30 |
| Coventry | 9 | 12 |
| Crystal Palace | 11 | 10 |
| Derby | 17 | 20 |
| Everton | 11 | 12 |
| Leeds Utd | 15 | 16 |
| Leicester | 9 | 17 |
| Liverpool | 10 | 28 |
| Manchester Utd | 21 | 30 |
| Newcastle | 12 | 10 |
| Sheffield Wed | 15 | 19 |
| Southampton | 10 | 15 |
| Tottenham | 11 | 8 |
| West Ham | 11 | 23 |
| Wimbledon | 7 | 14 |

## CLEAN SHEETS

| | Clean sheet | Failed to score |
|---|---|---|
| Arsenal | 7 | 5 |
| Aston Villa | 5 | 7 |
| Barnsley | 4 | 8 |
| Blackburn | 9 | 4 |
| Bolton | 8 | 8 |
| Chelsea | 8 | 4 |
| Coventry | 6 | 10 |
| Crystal Palace | 5 | 7 |
| Derby | 7 | 7 |
| Everton | 6 | 10 |
| Leeds Utd | 7 | 8 |
| Leicester | 7 | 5 |
| Liverpool | 8 | 2 |
| Manchester Utd | 13 | 3 |
| Newcastle | 5 | 6 |
| Sheffield Wed | 5 | 3 |
| Southampton | 5 | 8 |
| Tottenham | 6 | 11 |
| West Ham | 4 | 5 |
| Wimbledon | 4 | 7 |

## SCORERS

| | Goals |
|---|---|
| Sutton (Blackburn) | 13 |
| Cole (Manchester Utd) | 12 |
| Hartson (West Ham) | 12 |
| Balano (Derby) | 11 |
| Bergkamp (Arsenal) | 10 |
| Gallacher (Blackburn) | 10 |
| Wright (Arsenal) | 10 |
| Fowler (Liverpool) | 9 |
| Davies (Southampton) | 8 |
| Di Canio (Sheffield Wed) | 8 |
| Dublin (Coventry) | 8 |
| McManaman (Liverpool) | 8 |
| Sheringham (Manchester Utd) | 8 |
| Wallace (Leeds) | 8 |
| Blake (Bolton) | 7 |
| Carbone (Sheffield Wed) | 7 |
| Hasselbaink (Leeds) | 7 |
| Huckerby (Coventry) | 7 |
| Overmars (Arsenal) | 7 |
| Sturridge (Derby) | 7 |
| Wanchope (Derby) | 7 |
| Zola (Chelsea) | 7 |

## HOME

| Attendance | Average | % full |
|---|---|---|
| Arsenal | 38,016 | 99% |
| Aston Villa | 35,376 | 90% |
| Barnsley | 18,500 | 100% |
| Blackburn | 23,877 | 76% |
| Bolton | 23,945 | 96% |
| Chelsea* | 33,445 | 100% |
| Coventry | 19,297 | 82% |
| Crystal Palace | 23,103 | 88% |
| Derby | 28,418 | 95% |
| Everton | 35,030 | 87% |
| Leeds | 34,743 | 87% |
| Leicester | 20,220 | 94% |
| Liverpool* | 38,258 | 100% |
| Manchester Utd | 55,148 | 98% |
| Newcastle | 36,681 | 100% |
| Sheffield Wed | 27,181 | 68% |
| Southampton | 15,174 | 100% |
| Tottenham* | 26,899 | 98% |
| West Ham | 24,743 | 95% |
| Wimbledon | 17,017 | 65% |

* denotes reduced ground capacity

## CAUTIONS

| Cards issued | Yellow | Red |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Leeds Utd | 50 | 3 |
| 2. Coventry | 48 | 4 |
| 3. Everton | 47 | 3 |
| 4. Derby | 48 | 1 |
| 5. Arsenal | 45 | 1 |
| 6. Bolton | 40 | 4 |
| 7. C Palace | 42 | 2 |
| 8. Chelsea | 39 | 3 |
| = Sheffield Wed | 39 | 3 |
| 10. Newcastle | 38 | 2 |
| 11. West Ham | 38 | 1 |
| 12. Blackburn | 35 | 3 |
| 13. Southampton | 35 | 1 |
| 14. Manchester Utd* | 35 | 0 |
| 15. Barnsley | 33 | 0 |
| 16. Tottenham | 30 | 1 |
| = Wimbledon | 30 | 1 |
| 18. Liverpool | 29 | 1 |
| 19. Leicester | 28 | 1 |
| 20. Aston Villa | 26 | 1 |

* red card downgraded to yellow

## AWAY

| Attendance | P | Average |
|---|---|---|
| Arsenal | 10 | 29,972 |
| Aston Villa | 11 | 30,605 |
| Barnsley | 12 | 28,697 |
| Blackburn | 11 | 30,008 |
| Bolton | 11 | 24,540 |
| Chelsea | 12 | 28,689 |
| Coventry | 11 | 29,338 |
| Crystal Palace | 12 | 25,692 |
| Derby | 11 | 28,273 |
| Everton | 12 | 30,068 |
| Leeds | 11 | 27,526 |
| Leicester | 10 | 28,695 |
| Liverpool | 10 | 30,293 |
| Manchester Utd | 11 | 31,635 |
| Newcastle | 9 | 27,656 |
| Sheffield Wed | 10 | 27,533 |
| Southampton | 11 | 27,936 |
| Tottenham | 11 | 31,603 |
| West Ham | 12 | 28,105 |
| Wimbledon | 10 | 28,998 |

## REFEREES

| | Cards issued P | Yellow | Red |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. M Reed | 10 | 50 | 2 |
| 2. G Willard | 12 | 54 | 4 |
| 3. G Poll | 14 | 57 | 7 |
| 4. U Rennie | 12 | 48 | 1 |
| 5. G Barber | 12 | 45 | 3 |
| 6. P Durkin | 13 | 49 | 3 |
| 7. P Alcock | 12 | 45 | 0 |
| 8. D Elleray | 12 | 45 | 1 |
| 9. S Dunn | 9 | 32 | 1 |
| 10. J Winter | 12 | 41 | 2 |
| 11. M Riley | 12 | 38 | 2 |
| 12. M Riley | 10 | 31 | 2 |
| 13. P Jones | 12 | 36 | 2 |
| 14. A Wilkie | 11 | 35 | 0 |
| 15. M Bodenham | 12 | 35 | 2 |
| 16. G Ashby | 10 | 30 | 1 |
| 17. K Burge | 12 | 34 | 1 |
| 18. N Barry | 11 | 27 | 2 |
| 19. D Gallagher | 11 | 22 | 0 |
| 19. S Lodge | 12 | 22 | 0 |

## INTERNET

**FA Premiership clubs' official websites**

| | |
|---|---|
| Arsenal | www.arsenal.co.uk |
| Aston Villa | www.astonvilla-fc.co.uk |
| Barnsley | www.yorkshire-web.co.uk/bfc/BFC.HTML |
| Blackburn | www.rovers.co.uk |
| Bolton | www.boltonwfc.co.uk |
| Chelsea | www.chelseafc.co.uk |
| Coventry | www.ccfc.co.uk |
| C Palace | www.cpfc.co.uk |
| Derby | — |
| Everton | evertonfc.merseyworld.com |
| Leeds | www.lufc.co.uk |
| Leicester | www.lcfc.co.uk |
| Liverpool | — |
| Man Utd | www.sky.co.uk/sports/manu |
| Newcastle | www.newcastle-utd.co.uk/nufc |
| Sheffield Wed | www.swfc.co.uk |
| Southampton | www.soton.ac.uk/~saints |
| Tottenham | www.spurs.co.uk |
| West Ham | www.westhamunited.co.uk |
| Wimbledon | — |
| FA Premiership | www.fa-carling.com |

# WEEKEND MATCHES

## TODAY

*Kick-off 3.0 unless stated * denotes all-ticket*
*Pools coupon numbers in brackets*
*In Premiership fixtures, † denotes sold out, otherwise seats available*

**FA Carling Premiership**

(1) † Barnsley v Crystal Palace
(2) Blackburn v Aston Villa
(3) Coventry v Arsenal
(4) Leeds v Sheffield Wednesday
(5) †* Leicester v Liverpool
(6) † Newcastle v Bolton
(7) † Tottenham v West Ham
(8) Wimbledon v Derby

**Nationwide League**
**First division**

(9) Birmingham v Huddersfield
(10) Manchester City v Sunderland
(11) Middlesbrough v Ipswich
(12) Norwich v Nottingham Forest
(13) Oxford Utd v Charlton
(14) Port Vale v Portsmouth
(15) Queens Park Rangers v Tranmere
(16) Sheffield Utd v Wolverhampton
(17) * *Swindon v Reading*
(18) West Bromwich v Crewe

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nottm Forest | 26 | 15 | 8 | 4 | 45 | 24 | 54 |
| Middlesbrough | 26 | 15 | 6 | 5 | 43 | 23 | 51 |
| Charlton | 26 | 14 | 5 | 7 | 49 | 34 | 47 |
| Sunderland | 25 | 13 | 7 | 5 | 42 | 24 | 46 |
| Sheff Utd | 26 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 42 | 29 | 46 |
| Wolverhampton | 26 | 13 | 6 | 7 | 37 | 26 | 45 |
| West Bromwich | 26 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 27 | 24 | 42 |
| Birmingham | 26 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 32 | 19 | 39 |
| Stockport | 26 | 11 | 5 | 10 | 44 | 37 | 38 |
| Swindon | 26 | 11 | 5 | 10 | 32 | 38 | 38 |
| * Bradford | 26 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 25 | 26 | 37 |
| Norwich | 26 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 26 | 39 | 33 |
| QPR | 26 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 30 | 40 | 32 |
| Ipswich | 25 | 7 | 10 | 8 | 29 | 26 | 31 |
| *Reading* | 26 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 28 | 30 | 30 |
| † Stoke | 26 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 27 | 40 | 29 |
| Crewe | 26 | 8 | 4 | 14 | 30 | 40 | 28 |
| Man City | 26 | 7 | 6 | 13 | 31 | 31 | 27 |
| Oxford Utd | 25 | 7 | 6 | 13 | 31 | 40 | 27 |
| Huddersfield | 26 | 7 | 6 | 13 | 30 | 40 | 27 |
| Port Vale | 26 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 27 | 37 | 26 |
| Tranmere | 25 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 28 | 34 | 25 |
| Bury | 26 | 4 | 13 | 9 | 24 | 34 | 25 |
| Portsmouth | 25 | 6 | 5 | 14 | 29 | 42 | 23 |

** not including last night's match*

*Second division*

(19) Blackpool v Bournemouth
(20) Bristol Rovers v Burnley
(21) Chesterfield v Plymouth
(22) Fulham v Wycombe
(23) Gillingham v York
(24) Grimsby v Brentford
(25) Millwall v Wrexham
(26) Northampton v Carlisle
(27) Oldham v Luton
(28) Southend v Walsall
(29) Watford v Preston
(30) Wigan v Bristol City

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bristol City | 26 | 17 | 4 | 5 | 48 | 21 | 55 |
| Watford | 26 | 16 | 7 | 3 | 39 | 18 | 55 |
| Bristol Rovers | 26 | 11 | 7 | 8 | 39 | 39 | 40 |
| Fulham | 26 | 11 | 7 | 8 | 33 | 28 | 40 |
| Northampton | 26 | 10 | 9 | 7 | 30 | 24 | 39 |
| Grimsby | 25 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 32 | 23 | 38 |
| Oldham | 25 | 9 | 10 | 6 | 38 | 30 | 37 |
| Gillingham | 27 | 10 | 7 | 10 | 35 | 38 | 37 |
| York | 26 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 32 | 29 | 37 |
| Chesterfield | 27 | 8 | 13 | 6 | 35 | 32 | 37 |
| Bournemouth | 25 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 34 | 32 | 36 |
| Millwall | 26 | 10 | 5 | 10 | 30 | 32 | 35 |
| Wrexham | 25 | 8 | 10 | 7 | 31 | 30 | 34 |
| Blackpool | 26 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 34 | 42 | 33 |
| Walsall | 25 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 29 | 31 | 33 |
| Wigan | 25 | 9 | 5 | 11 | 38 | 38 | 32 |
| Preston | 26 | 9 | 5 | 12 | 32 | 30 | 32 |
| Luton | 26 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 33 | 38 | 32 |
| Wycombe | 26 | 7 | 9 | 10 | 33 | 38 | 30 |
| Southend | 27 | 7 | 6 | 14 | 30 | 53 | 27 |
| Brentford | 27 | 6 | 9 | 12 | 28 | 44 | 27 |
| Carlisle | 26 | 7 | 5 | 14 | 34 | 43 | 26 |
| Plymouth | 26 | 5 | 10 | 11 | 31 | 38 | 25 |
| Burnley | 26 | 5 | 9 | 12 | 25 | 36 | 24 |

**Third division**

(31) Chester v Barnet
(32) Exeter v Doncaster
*(33) Leyton Orient v Brighton*
(34) Macclesfield v Hartlepool
(35) Mansfield v Scunthorpe
(36) Notts County v Cardiff
(37) Peterborough v Rochdale
(38) Rotherham v Darlington
(39) Scarborough v Lincoln
(—) Shrewsbury v Cambridge Utd
(—) Swansea v Hull

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Notts County | 25 | 15 | 8 | 3 | 42 | 25 | 53 |
| Peterborough | 26 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 48 | 25 | 46 |
| Scarborough | 26 | 13 | 4 | 9 | 41 | 37 | 43 |
| Chester | 26 | 13 | 4 | 9 | 39 | 32 | 43 |
| Rotherham | 26 | 11 | 9 | 6 | 43 | 36 | 42 |
| Barnet | 25 | 12 | 6 | 8 | 38 | 30 | 42 |
| Lincoln | 25 | 11 | 9 | 6 | 28 | 28 | 42 |
| Hartlepool | 27 | 9 | 14 | 4 | 39 | 30 | 41 |
| Exeter | 26 | 10 | 11 | 5 | 37 | 28 | 41 |
| * Torquay | 26 | 11 | 8 | 7 | 37 | 33 | 41 |
| Leyton Orient | 26 | 10 | 7 | 9 | 33 | 23 | 37 |
| Macclesfield | 25 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 33 | 29 | 36 |
| * Colchester | 26 | 9 | 7 | 10 | 42 | 43 | 34 |
| Scunthorpe | 25 | 9 | 6 | 10 | 31 | 34 | 33 |
| Cardiff | 25 | 6 | 14 | 5 | 24 | 24 | 32 |
| Camb Utd | 26 | 7 | 10 | 9 | 36 | 36 | 31 |
| Mansfield | 26 | 7 | 10 | 9 | 34 | 31 | 31 |
| Shrewsbury | 25 | 8 | 6 | 11 | 36 | 38 | 30 |
| Darlington | 26 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 34 | 38 | 29 |
| Rochdale | 27 | 7 | 2 | 18 | 31 | 56 | 23 |
| Swansea | 26 | 7 | 4 | 15 | 34 | 40 | 25 |
| Hull | 26 | 6 | 5 | 15 | 37 | 49 | 23 |
| Brighton | 26 | 4 | 9 | 13 | 22 | 36 | 21 |
| Doncaster | 25 | 2 | 6 | 17 | 17 | 65 | 12 |

** not including last night's match*

**Vauxhall Conference**

(—) Cheltenham v Hednesford
(—) Dover v Leek
(—) Farnborough v Northwich
(—) Hayes v Kidderminster
(—) Hereford v Kettering
(—) Morecambe v Yeovil
(—) Rushden and Diamonds v Southport
(—) Stalybridge v Woking
(—) Stevenage v Halifax
(—) *Telford v Slough*
(—) Welling v Gateshead

**Bell's Scottish League**
**Premier division**

(40) Aberdeen v Dunfermline
*(41) Dundee Utd v Celtic*
(42) Hibernian v St Johnstone
(43) Kilmarnock v Hearts
(44) Rangers v Motherwell

**First division**

*(45) Airdrie v Ayr*
(46) Greenock Morton v Dundee
(47) Hamilton v Stirling (1.0)
(48) Raith v Falkirk
(49) St Mirren v Partick

**Second division**

(—) Brechin v Queen of South
(—) Inverness CT v Clyde
(—) Livingston v Clydebank
(—) Stenhousemuir v Forfar
(—) Stranraer v East Fife

**Third division**

(—) Alloa v Arbroath
(—) Berwick v East Stirling
(—) Cowdenbeath v Albion
(—) Dumbarton v Queen's Park
(—) *Montrose v Ross County*

**DR MARTENS LEAGUE:** Premier division: Atherstone v Dorchester; Burton Albion v Ashford; Cambridge City v Gloucester; Crawley v Bromsgrove; Forest Green v Rothwell; Gresley v King's Lynn; Merthyr v Hastings; Nuneaton v Halesowen; St Leonards v Salisbury; Tamworth v Stringbourne; Worcester City v Bath. Southern division: Bashley v Baldock; Chelmsford v Weston-super-Mare; Cinderford v Erith and Belvedere; Dartford v Cirencester Town; Fareham v Waterlooville; Fleet T v Tonbridge Angels; Havant v Margate; Newport AFC v Fisher London; Trowbridge v Newport IoW; Weymouth v Yate; Witney v Clevedon. Midland division: Bilston v Paget R; Blakenall v Wisbech Town; Corby v Hinckley Utd; Grantham v Bedworth; Ilkeston v Rounds T; Redditch v VS Rugby; Solihull Boro v Evesham; Stafford v Moor Green; Sutton Coldfield Town v RC Warwick.
**UNIBOND LEAGUE:** Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Blyth Spartans; Altrofon v Emley; Barrow v Altrincham; Boston v Bishop Auckland; Gateshead v Bamber Bridge; Lancaster v Gainsborough; Leigh RMI v Chorley; Marine v Colwyn Bay; Runcorn v Frickley; Scarrymoor v Radcliffe Winsford v Hyde. First division: Buxton v Matlock Town; Droylsden v Belper Town; Eastwood Town v Harrogate Town; Lincoln United v Flixton; Netherfield v Bradford Pk Ave; Trafford v Ashton United; Whitley Bay v Congleton; Whitby v Great Harwood; Albion v Gretna; Workington v Farsley Celtic; Worksop v Stocksbridge PS

## TOMORROW

**FA Carling Premiership**
Everton v Chelsea (4.0)

**Nationwide League**
**First division**
Bury v Stockport (1.0)

**LEAGUE OF WALES:** *Conwy v Cemaes Ynys Mon* (2.0)
**FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Premier division: Shamrock v Drogheda (3.15), UCD v Cork (4.0)
**FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE:** National division: *Arsenal v Doncaster (12.30); Berkhamsted v Millwall (2.0), Liverpool v Bradford (12.0)*

## COVERAGE

**TELEVISION:** Today: BBC1: *Football Focus*, from 12.20pm; *Match of the Day* (including extended highlights of Coventry City v Arsenal, Leicester City v Liverpool, Leeds United v Sheffield Wednesday), from 10.50pm (repeated tomorrow at 7.20am) Sky Sports 1: Spanish league, Celta Vigo v Español (live), from 7pm Tomorrow: Channel 4: *Football Italia*, from 1.15pm Sky Sports 1: *Goals on Sunday*, from 11am; FA Carling Premiership, Everton v Chelsea (live), from 3pm; Spanish league, Majorca v Deportivo La Coruña (live), from 6.30pm. Sky Sports 2: Nationwide League, Bury v Stockport County (live), from 12pm.
**RADIO:** Today: BBC Radio 5 Live: Live coverage of a Premiership game in *Sport on Five*, from 1pm. Tomorrow: BBC Radio 5 Live: Coverage of Everton v Chelsea in *Sunday Sport*, from 12 noon.




**Statistics compiled by Julian Desborough**

RUGBY UNION

# Cloud will hang over Bath beyond trip to Newcastle

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH rugby will resume in sombre mood this weekend. Leading clubs, desperate to increase their share of the popular market, cannot wash their hands of the ear-biting affair at Bath, which will sustain its momentum into next week when Kevin Yates, the twice-capped England prop, faces a further inquisition from Bath officials.

Yates has become the only suspect after London Scottish acknowledged yesterday that Federico Méndez played no part in the incident during the Tetley's Bitter Cup tie last Saturday that resulted in Simon Fenn, the Exiles flanker, requiring 25 stitches in his ear. That Méndez and Victor Ubogu, the men originally cited with Yates by London Scottish, are contemplating legal action in defence of their reputations is understandable but depressing, if it again brings the game into the civil courts.

"Following lengthy and detailed conversations with Bath, Federico Méndez has been removed from the citation document," a London Scottish statement said. "Simon Fenn is making a good recovery under the circumstances. However, he has suffered a temporary loss of hearing in his left ear."

Bath have fixed next Tuesday as the day for their hearing, but Yates's legal representatives have applied for a postponement to allow them to prepare their case.

To launch, as Saracens did this week, a community development scheme designed to offer the game as a model to youngsters against the present backdrop is difficult indeed, although it does serve as a counterbalance.

So, too, does the return to the game of Jeremy Guscott for Bath's visit to the Gateshead Stadium tomorrow, where they meet Newcastle, the leaders of the Allied Dunbar Premiership. Guscott, the England and British Isles centre, has not played since last July, when he broke his arm during the third international between the Lions and South Africa. A bulging disc in his back required an operation at the start of this season, and he faces a most intensive examination of his match fitness with Newcastle expected to field Alan Tait and Graham Childs at centre.

Bath must have found it difficult to focus on training this week, yet their team (only Brian Cusack, the lock, has not been capped) is far stronger than the one beaten by Newcastle 20-13 on the opening day of the season. No one will appreciate better than the players how a good display will help to lift the cloud hanging over the club.

Newcastle have yet to lose in the Premiership this season whereas Wasps, the 1997 champions, have proved all too fallible. Today they visit Leicester without Lawrence Dallaglio, the England captain, who has a shoulder injury that has been niggling away for much of the season.

Joe Worsley takes his place in the back row, Alex King resumes at fly half, and Nick Greenstock is among the replacements for the first time since injuring shoulder ligaments while training with England last month. Wasps will start with Gareth Rees at centre and Paul Sampson at full back, but it would be no surprise to see Greenstock come on at some stage, with Rees reverting to his normal position.

Wasps anticipate being without their captain for no more than a week, the leadership duties passing to Damian Cronin at a ground where they have yet to win a league match. Leicester, moreover, select from a full-strength squad for the first time since Christmas, preferring Austin Healey at scrum half and Michael Horak on the wing while Darren Garforth, the England tight-head prop, makes his 200th appearance.

Clive Woodward, the England coach, is due to be joined at Bristol's meeting with Gloucester tomorrow by his Ireland counterpart, Brian Ashton. Phil Greening, out with a damaged shoulder for much of the season, is among Gloucester's replacements while Ashton will look at Adam Larkin, the Bristol centre recruited from New Zealand who has an Irish passport.

Saracens, whose pursuit of Newcastle resumes against Sale at Vicarage Road, offered the acceptable face of rugby with the launch of their three-year development plan that will depend strongly on their leading players becoming identifiable for the youth of Watford and Hertfordshire. They have built on a model established by Graham Taylor and his Watford footballers — who will be among the crowd tomorrow — and they hope to reach 30,000 youngsters.

"We're dropping a rugby ball in the Watford pond and the ripples will go out from there," Tim Lawler, the Saracens community development officer, said.

Schools will be visited by players such as Francois Pienaar and Michael Lynagh. Right now, rugby needs a few missionaries.

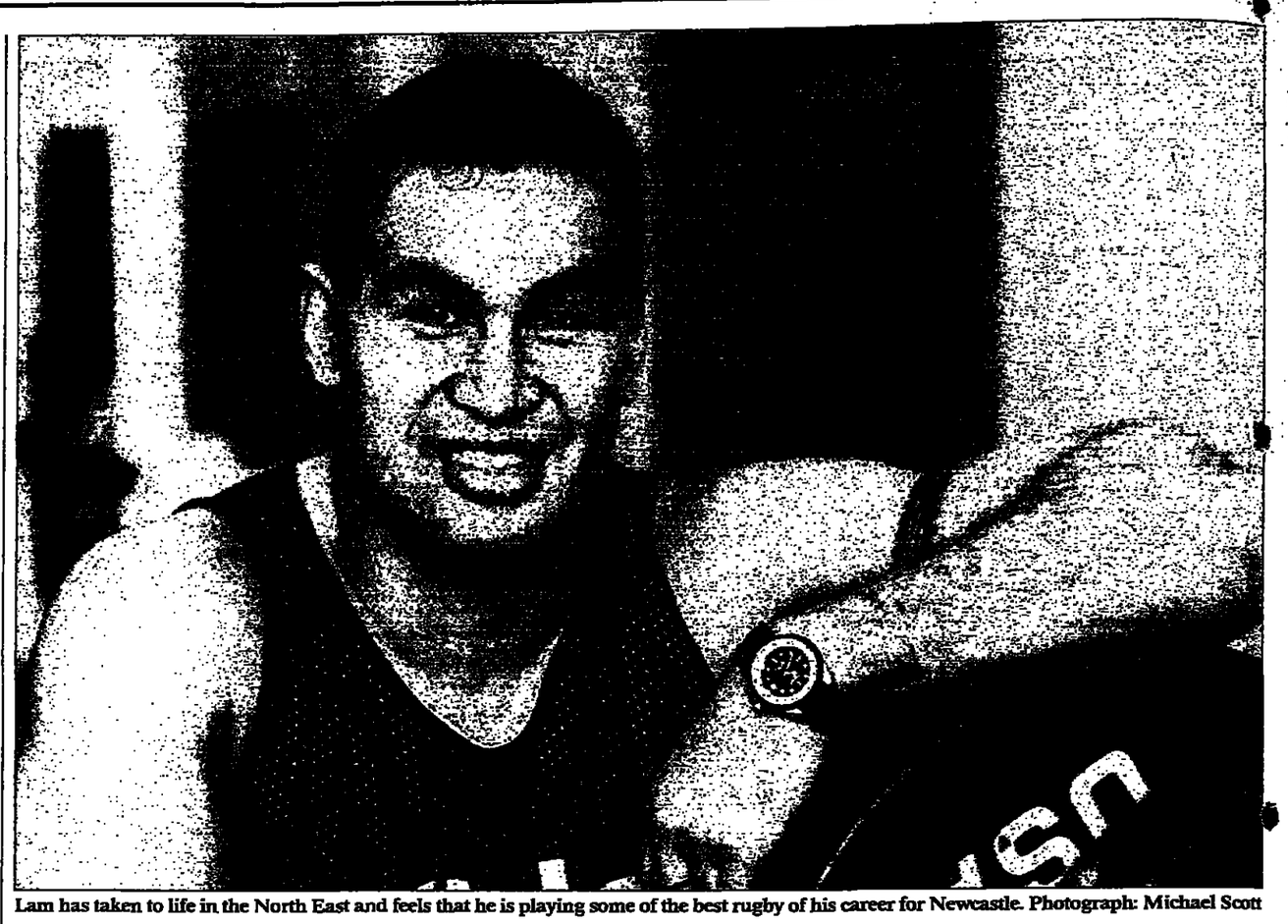
## TABLES

First division

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Newcastle | 9 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 301 | 149 | 18 |
| Saracens | 10 | 9 | 0 | 1 | 266 | 151 | 18 |
| Leicester | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 210 | 159 | 10 |
| Bath | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 215 | 183 | 10 |
| Northampton | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 217 | 191 | 10 |
| Harlequins | 10 | 5 | 0 | 5 | 267 | 277 | 10 |
| Richmond | 10 | 4 | 0 | 6 | 225 | 207 | 8 |
| Sale | 10 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 281 | 271 | 7 |
| Gloucester | 9 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 217 | 219 | 7 |
| Wasps | 8 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 167 | 209 | 6 |
| Bristol | 9 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 140 | 340 | 4 |
| London Irish | 9 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 137 | 287 | 2 |

Second division

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bedford | 12 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 434 | 177 | 24 |
| L Scottish | 12 | 8 | 0 | 4 | 300 | 228 | 16 |
| Orrell | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 257 | 177 | 14 |
| Rotherham | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 320 | 263 | 14 |
| W Hartlepool | 11 | 7 | 0 | 4 | 259 | 224 | 14 |
| Waterloo | 13 | 7 | 0 | 6 | 316 | 287 | 14 |
| Coventry | 12 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 221 | 303 | 14 |
| Moseley | 12 | 6 | 0 | 6 | 237 | 240 | 12 |
| Blackheath | 12 | 5 | 0 | 7 | 270 | 299 | 10 |
| Exeter | 12 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 196 | 292 | 6 |
| Wakefield | 12 | 2 | 0 | 10 | 203 | 290 | 4 |
| Fylde | 12 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 155 | 388 | 2 |



Lam has taken to life in the North East and feels that he is playing some of the best rugby of his career for Newcastle. Photograph: Michael Scott

# Lam on the rampage

## The Western Samoa captain has made a huge impact at Newcastle. **Christopher Irvine** traces his career

Is there a more creative, versatile or visible forward plying his trade in English rugby union than Pat Lam? Lam is a player at the peak of his powers, even though he admits that, at 29, he would probably have been pensioned off back in New Zealand. It is some swansong that the Western Samoa captain and veteran of the 1991 and 1995 World Cups is giving Newcastle, where he is the consistent thoroughbred among the international stable at Kingston Park.

A good back row should consist of a clogger, a carrier and a creator. Lam is all three. He happily fills any one of the No 6, 7 or 8 shirts, so much so that when asked about his position, he refers to it as "loose forward". In his roving role for Newcastle, Lam can be putting in one of his trademark sandbagging tackles one moment and providing the link between pack and threequarters with pace and delicate hands the next.

On a beastly evening, Lam could hardly be faulted for thoughts of home. Not a bit of it. When he and his family returned to Auckland for a holiday recently, his son kept asking when they were returning to Newcastle and Lam missed the training regime with which he associates his fruitful form. Newcastle's game is built on muscle and power development forms the bulk of the team's weekday work under Steve Black, the club's fitness adviser.

"I've had trainers before who've said do this and that and I've thought 'nah', but the respect we've all got for Steve and his methods mean you continue to push your body," Lam said. "The work is based around explosive power and getting to that point that we know that in the tight situation we can physically handle it, like we did at Leicester. When it comes around to match day, I feel myself refreshed and ready to go."

After another of these endurance sessions, Lam is bursting with verbal energy. He is charismatic, convivial company, with eyes that narrow in on an inquisitor as they do upon any opposition ball-carrier. Lam cannot praise Newcastle and its people enough, is already looking to extend his contract at the club beyond next season and feels that he is playing the best rugby of his life.

"I'm very lucky with the back-row people we've got. The time before I experienced something like it was with Michael Jones and Zinzan Brooke at Auckland, where Alan Whetton taught me the art of communication," he said. "You've got to know where everyone is. Here, you take it as read that Dean [Ryan] is doing the hard yards up the middle, Richard [Arnold] or Peter [Walton] are performing the grafting jobs, freeing me to do the link role."

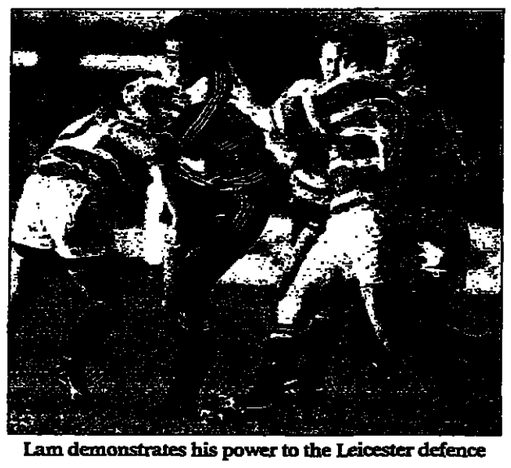
Growing up in New Zealand, Lam might have concentrated on rugby league. His father, who played the 13-man code, was also instrumental in his decision in 1991 to refuse an offer from Canberra Raiders because he insisted that he finish teacher training. With Va'aiga Tuigamala, his good friend and now colleague at Newcastle, they progressed through the New Zealand age groups together, Lam pledging his allegiance, after one All Blacks appearance, to his spiritual homeland and Manu Samoa.

Reaching the quarter-finals of the past two World Cups were the high points of Lam's career. Ten of the 1995 Samoa side were picked off by rugby league but, under Lam, the re-building process is well under way for the 1999 World Cup. "I took some of Newcastle's methods back there with me. We've a young, very capable team. I'm the old man now. The next World Cup will mark my international retirement, so I'm determined that we do well," he said.

It was after Samoa beat Ireland in November 1996 that Ryan, the Newcastle captain, and Steve Bates, the coach, buttonholed Lam. The next day Rob Andrew, the director of rugby, showed him round Kingston Park and Lam was hooked. He extricated himself from a Super 12 contract in New Zealand and has not looked back. "He's dynamic, outgoing, unstoppable, and that's just off the pitch," Andrew said. "He brings a marvellous cutting edge to the pack."

"My wife and I knew we were making a big move," Lam said, "not knowing how long it was going to be, but insisting we make the very most of it. Everyone was so welcoming, we felt an immediate affinity. It was the same for a lot of the lads. Outside Newcastle, we were called journeymen who wouldn't be able to foster team spirit. That criticism had the opposite effect. The togetherness of the players reminds me of Samoa.

"Some people might have wondered what I was doing going to a second-division club then, but I could see their vision. I was given free licence to use my skills, which I really appreciate. It doesn't surprise me now that we're top of the first division. We do all our physical homework thoroughly and where we're good is at exploiting opposition weaknesses, although everyone is acutely aware that the moment we start believing the publicity, it could be our downfall."



Lam demonstrates his power to the Leicester defence

An island community in Newcastle has sprung up around Lam and Tuigamala. Christmas was a time for tarot and spit-roasted pig. Less traditionally, Lam was spotted at the club's Seventies night in Afro wig and flares. "Whenever I'm away, I'm always looking forward to coming back because it's so much fun, and now that the eldest of my three children has begun school, conversation with new friends is not necessarily about rugby," he said.

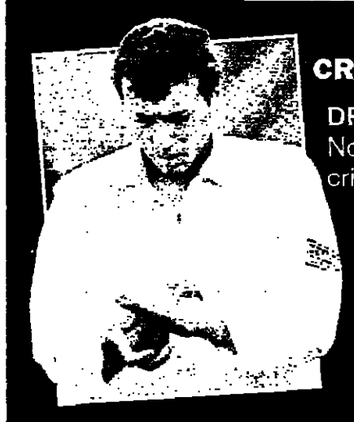
Against London Irish last Sunday, a heavy cold failed to prevent Lam popping up with two try-scoring passes. He finds the English game more physical but less fast than in New Zealand, which perhaps explains why no domestic opponents, so far, have contained his elusiveness. Bath, at Gateshead tomorrow, present a more formidable obstacle yet, if he has his way, who is to say that Lam might not lead them to slaughter?

THE SUNDAY TIMES



FROZEN OUT

Hugh McIlvanney on why heavyweight boxer Lennox Lewis cannot get a decent fight, **Sport tomorrow**



CRICKET

DREADLOCK HOLIDAY
No rest for England cricketers in the Caribbean

FOOTBALL

BASEMENT BATTLE
The struggle to stay among football's big boys



THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

## TIMES RUGBY UNION STATISTICS

### ATTACK

Allied Dunbar Premiership first division clubs are ranked in terms of points, tries and penalty goals scored plus the percentage of matches in which they have scored tries. The best overall side is calculated by averaging the performance in each category. The figures in brackets denote rankings in each category.

| | | Points | Tries | Pens | Tries sc'd | Overall |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Sale | 29.10 (2) | 3.33 (2) | 2.00 (8) | 100 (1) | 3.25 |
| 2 | Bath | 29.86 (1) | 2.88 (5) | 3.00 (3) | 100 (1) | 3.25 |
| 3 | Newcastle | 33.44 (1) | 4.56 (1) | 2.11 (5) | 89 (6) | 3.50 |
| 4 | Saracens | 26.60 (5) | 2.60 (7) | 3.33 (2) | 90 (4) | 4.50 |
| | Harlequins | 26.70 (4) | 2.90 (3) | 2.10 (7) | 90 (4) | 4.50 |
| 6 | Gloucester | 24.11 (7) | 2.78 (6) | 2.11 (5) | 100 (1) | 4.75 |
| 7 | Leicester | 26.25 (6) | 2.50 (8) | 2.00 (8) | 88 (8) | 7.50 |
| 8 | Wasps | 29.86 (10) | 1.63 (9) | 3.25 (3) | 88 (8) | 7.75 |
| 9 | Northampton | 21.70 (9) | 1.50 (10) | 3.80 (1) | 59 (12) | 8.00 |
| 10 | Richmond | 22.50 (3) | 2.90 (4) | 1.70 (12) | 80 (10) | 8.25 |
| 11 | Bristol | 15.56 (11) | 1.33 (10) | 2.00 (8) | 67 (11) | 10.25 |
| | London Irish | 15.22 (12) | 1.22 (12) | 1.78 (11) | 89 (6) | 10.25 |

### DEFENCE

This table uses the same principle as the Attack table. The categories are: fewest points, tries and penalties against plus the percentage of matches in which the opposition has failed to score a try.

| | | Points | Tries | Pens | Tries ag | Overall |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Saracens | 15.10 (1) | 1.11 (1) | 2.30 (7) | 30 (2) | 2.75 |
| 2 | Newcastle | 16.56 (2) | 1.11 (1) | 2.78 (10) | 22 (3) | 4.00 |
| 3 | Leicester | 19.88 (4) | 2.00 (5) | 2.13 (9) | 13 (4) | 4.50 |
| 4 | Bath | 22.88 (6) | 2.63 (7) | 2.00 (2) | 13 (4) | 4.75 |
| 5 | Richmond | 20.70 (5) | 1.40 (3) | 4.00 (12) | 50 (1) | 5.25 |
| | Northampton | 19.10 (3) | 1.90 (4) | 2.20 (6) | 10 (8) | 5.25 |
| 7 | Wasps | 26.13 (8) | 2.50 (6) | 2.75 (9) | 13 (4) | 6.75 |
| 8 | Gloucester | 24.33 (7) | 2.89 (10) | 2.11 (3) | 0 (10) | 7.50 |
| 9 | Bristol | 37.78 (12) | 5.33 (12) | 1.78 (1) | 11 (7) | 8.00 |
| 10 | Sale | 27.10 (9) | 2.80 (8) | 2.70 (8) | 10 (8) | 8.25 |
| 11 | London Irish | 31.89 (11) | 4.00 (11) | 2.11 (3) | 0 (10) | 8.75 |
| 12 | Harlequins | 27.70 (10) | 2.80 (8) | 3.10 (11) | 0 (10) | 9.75 |

### LEADING SCORERS

(PREMIERSHIP AND TETLEY'S BITTER CUP)

| | | Tr | Con | Pen | DG | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | M Lynagh (Saracens) | 5 | 23 | 33 | 1 | 173 |
| 2 | J Stransky (Leicester) | 1 | 17 | 28 | 1 | 150 |
| 3 | S Howarth (Sale) | 1 | 23 | 20 | 2 | 117 |
| | G Rees (Wasps) | 1 | 13 | 29 | - | 117 |
| 5 | M Appleforth (Gloucester) | 3 | 16 | 19 | 1 | 107 |
| 6 | P Grayson (Northampton) | 3 | 12 | 21 | 1 | 104 |
| 7 | T Lacroix (Harlequins) | 1 | 13 | 20 | 2 | 97 |
| | P Burke (Bristol) | 1 | 10 | 22 | 2 | 97 |
| 9 | J Callard (Bath) | 1 | 10 | 17 | 1 | 79 |
| 10 | N Woods (London Irish) | 2 | 13 | 13 | - | 76 |
| 11 | R Andrew (Newcastle) | - | 12 | 15 | 1 | 72 |

TRIES: 8: T Beim (Sale) 7: D Chapman (Richmond), G Armstrong (Newcastle) 6: P Lam (Newcastle), J Naylor (Newcastle) 5: J Wright (Richmond), D O'Leary (Harlequins), M Lynagh (Saracens), D Rees (Sale), R Constable (Saracens), C O'Shea (London Irish), J Williams (Harlequins), T Fanolua (Gloucester). 4: W Greenwood (Leicester), S Quinnell (Richmond), D Trott (Bristol), N Popplewell (Newcastle), K Ellis (Sale), V Tuigamala (Newcastle)

■ Compiled by Stephen McCormack

# Melrose desperate to arrest recent decline

BY KEVIN FERRIE

AS THEIR domination of rugby in Scotland has increased, with six title wins in the past eight years, so it was inevitable that the biggest problem facing Melrose was likely to be their own complacency. That, allied to the loss of some of those who contributed most to their league and cup double triumph last season, has left the champions looking unusually vulnerable.

Last season's wingers — Derek Stark, the Scotland international, and Gary Parker — have both moved on and, curiously, are in direct opposition today in what could well be the second division title decider. Stark plays for Glasgow Hawks, the leaders, and Parker is now player-coach at Gala.

Melrose appeared to be dealing well with their departures, and those of Scotland forwards Peter Wright and Stewart Campbell, with wins in their first four Tennents Premiership matches. However, problems began when Rowen Shepherd, another international, their full back and goalkicker, missed the game with Hawick last month, which saw Melrose lose in the league for the first time in more than two years.

Subsequent defeats by Jed-Forest, in the Border League, and, last week, in the Premiership at Currie, have damaged their aura of invincibility. Consequently, with Shepherd absent, this time through injury, another defeat tomorrow would suggest potentially terminal decline.

"I can't remember ever being involved in a Melrose side that lost three times in succession in the league," Carl Hogg, the club captain, said. "Possibly we've had it too easy in the last two years, with so many games where we've been able to relax after an hour and not had to keep going for the full 80 minutes."

Midweek victories for Currie, over Edinburgh Academicals, and Boroughmuir, against Heriot's FP, have only tightened up the bottleneck at the top of the first division. Seven of the ten sides have lost two matches and are separated only by games in hand and bonus points.

Watsonians, the leaders, face a Hawick side on a roll after beating Melrose and West of Scotland in their past two matches, while third-placed Stirling County travel to Currie, who are at home for the third time in eight days.

PERS Limited, a joint venture between Times Newspapers Ltd, PO Box [illegible] and other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd. PO Box [illegible] Registered Office: New Printing House, Virginia Street, London E1 9BD. Printed at Kirby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HA. Telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kirby Road, Prescot, Merseyside, L34 9HA. Telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post

half of 1997

slowly as it drifts to the north of the Gulf of Bothnia. High

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



'Players must be hard, but those who overstep the mark by gouging or biting are not going to gain respect'

# Players know violence has no place on the pitch

**LAWRENCE DALLAGLIO**



Let me begin by saying that I have never been bitten in a game and reiterate that any incident of biting has no place on a rugby field. Any individual found guilty of biting has seriously put their career in jeopardy. There is an unwritten code of conduct that states categorically that this sort of behaviour is not tolerated.

Obviously for it to rear its ugly head in the British game is not welcome. I haven't seen a great deal of the evidence from Bath and it would be inappropriate for me to comment too much but, from what I can see, the scrum had collapsed and there was a pile-up — and when that happens it is very, very difficult to identify what is going on. When a scrum collapses, I am busy trying to pull up my prop because it can be a dangerous situation.

Rugby is very physical, sometimes brutal, and players have to bring a real physicality to the game, but that has to be tempered by discipline and self-control for the benefit of yourself and your team. It is players who can operate with control that stay on top of their game.

Rugby players aren't naturally violent people. You have big guys who one minute can be at peace with themselves and the world in the bar having a quiet pint, and then four or five days later, they will be trying to knock lumps out of the opposition. Talking of the physical side of the game, I have a shoulder injury that means I won't be playing against Leicester today.

It is a shame because playing at Welford Road is a real occasion. I really enjoy it there and the crowd appreciates good rugby. Our encounter last season was a real epic, a real physical battle — the most physical league game I played during the season.

It is important for every team to have players who are uncompromising, who are extremely physical and who, if not exactly put the fear of God into the opposition, make them worry. In that respect, rugby is a hard game played by hard people but, hopefully, we won't see a repeat of the incident last week.

Players who bring a hardness are respected, but those who overstep that mark by gouging or biting are not going to gain anyone's respect. There is a line that players draw. Punches do occur in the heat of the moment, but everyone walks off the best of friends. I would be lying if I said needle didn't occur, but there is an acceptable level and once that is breached the game is brought into disrepute.

Rugby's profile has risen significantly and there are now many more people watching the game; players, while not wrapping themselves in cotton wool, must be very careful about what they do because the game has an image to protect that must not be tarnished by the sort of incident that we saw last week.

When I first started playing senior rugby as an 18-year-old, however, older players would try to intimidate you. You were playing against men ten or more years older than you who were not going to treat you nicely because you were 18. For many people it is a hard world and you have to stand up and be counted very quickly, otherwise people will expose your weaknesses.

As a back-row forward you are always in the thick of the action for much of the game. The worst that has happened to me is a good shoeing. In Australia, with England Under-21, I found out quickly that you didn't stay too long on the wrong side of the ball or accidentally lie on it.

In South Africa, in Port Elizabeth in 1994, I took a good shoeing lying on the wrong side and you learn from that experience. But when you see guys getting raked, it is not gratuitous violence. Guys aren't stamping on each other — it is the fact that you are lying where you shouldn't be and players are frustrated and want quick ball. Referees either give a penalty or allow you to take the law into your own hands. By doing that, though, you have got a responsibility not to raise your foot and cause serious injury.

There can be no fear factor for players. If you start thinking what might happen you end up losing the plot. You go out determined to dominate that game and to make sure you leave your mark on it.

> 'The game has an image that must not be tarnished by this incident'

As far as I am aware, there are no vendettas that carry over from one season to the next. One of the great things about rugby that hasn't changed in the professional era is that everyone shakes hands once the final whistle has gone. We don't have too many incidents of fighting after the game or referees being escorted off the pitch.

I don't concur with the view that sides are dirty. Everyone talks about the French being dirty but I don't think they are. I just wish they would play magical rugby for 80 minutes. You know when you play teams from the South Seas that there are going to be some strong short-arm tackles, and with the All Blacks and the Springboks that it is going to be extremely physical. You have got to be able to take and give the big hits in attack and defence.

I haven't found that by being England captain I am a marked man or that people go out to antagonise me. Any team that highlights one player as one to mark would not be doing their homework. People haven't set out to provoke me. If people try to put you off your game by talking or whatever, you have got to accept that. It is part and parcel of the game.



castle Photograph Michal

## ICE SKATING

# German jumps to early lead

FROM ANGELA COURT IN MILAN

MICHELLE KWAN and Tara Lipinski, of the United States, are expected to take the women's gold and silver medals at the Olympic Games in Nagano next month but the bronze medal appears to be up for grabs.

That gave extra incentive to the skaters contesting the European figure skating championships that opened with the short programme here yesterday afternoon.

Defending champion, Irina Slutskaya, of Russia, Tanja Szewczenko, of Germany, the Champions Series final runner-up, Vanessa Gusmeroli, of France, the world bronze medal-winner last year and Surya Bonaly, also of France, former five-times European champion, are the front runners.

Szewczenko, 20, had an early draw that could have made life difficult. However, she rose to the challenge with a well-executed triple lutz double toe loop jump combination followed by a solo triple toe loop. The flying spin lacked a position in the air and her overall skating appeared a little slow, but marks up to 5.6 for required elements and up to 5.8 for presentation gave her an early lead which she maintained.

Bonaly performed a combination of two triple toe loops to lie second ahead of Slutskaya, who faulted a triple lutz combination and appears to have made little, if any, progress during the last couple of seasons.

If Szewczenko wins the free programme today to claim the title she will have shown courage as well as ability.

In 1994, she won the bronze medal at the world championships, but had been out of competition for 18 months before this season with injury and illness.

At one point doctors said that she would not skate again, but she has returned to the ice a finer athlete. If things continue in the same vein over the next couple of months, she could be on the podium at the Olympics and world championships.

Britain has no entries following a decision by the National Ice Skating Association that to compete in international championships skaters must show that they can produce more than one triple jump.

**CRICKET:** FIRST MATCH OF WEST INDIES TOUR PROVIDES BATSMEN WITH EARLY TEST OF RESOLVE

# England undermined by poor pitch

FROM ALAN LEE CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN MONTEGO BAY

IN CONDITIONS designed to test both spirit and reflexes, England finally launched their Caribbean match programme yesterday under the fickle skies of this hectic and unlovely resort town. It was not a comfortable or propitious start but it did show England in resolute, uncomplaining light.

Significantly, it also revealed the intended shape of the XI for the start of the Test series on January 29. John Crawley, who has been promoted to his natural position at No 3, encouragingly batted through the morning after Alec Stewart was an early casualty of a pitch utterly unsuitable for international cricket.

Adam Hollioake, quite properly, retained the all-rounder's place and the contentious bowling positions went to Angus Fraser and Phil Tufnell. David Lloyd, the coach, said: "It is fair to say we have declared our hand. We need to get what we consider the Test side firing and playing together, but there is still room for manoeuvre and nothing is set in stone."

First sight of the itinerary for this tour suggested an enviable start but Jarrett Park has shattered some illusions. There is no sight of the sand and surf and no palm trees. New terracing is shabby and the pavilion would win awards only for ugliness. Far more important, playing conditions are shambolic, a legacy of the Caribbean trend for relaying cricket grounds too close to important fixtures.

After substantial rainfall, preparation was alarmingly behind schedule and, despite the staff working long into the night under floodlights, it still presented a startling sight when the team arrived yesterday.

The pitch was grassless but firm, its unfriendly nature so far hidden, but the surrounds contained treacherous wet spots and the outfield was rough and pitted. Steve Bucknor, who had been called in to oversee ground arrangements in addition to umpiring the game, admitted late on Thursday that he would not have been surprised had England refused to start in such conditions.

In other circumstances, there might indeed have been a debate, perhaps even a divisive incident, but England, with only two games in which to prepare for the Test series, were in no position to argue. Commendably, they also uttered not a word of complaint.

This ground is used regularly for football and despite this being the first international cricket staged here for 12 years it plainly carries low priority among the locals.

Fewer than 100 spectators were present when Michael Atherton, having taken the bold decision to bat, tucked the first ball of the tour, a routine leg-stump half-volley, for a single. But by the time the attendance was swelled by a large party of schoolgirls in pink dresses, the vagaries of the pitch had been exposed.

Bucknor, standing at the bowler's end, must have squirmed uncomfortably as Stewart was twice confounded by irregular bounce during the opening over from Kirk Powell. Stewart, indeed, had a short and miserable stay, his one run resulting from a misfield and his dismissal, after two evil grubbers, was to a ball that reared from just short of a length, looping easily to second slip off the shoulder of the bat.

At this point, the one consolation for England was that Jamaica were fielding a reserve pace attack. Courtney Walsh and Franklyn Rose are resting before the Test and Patrick Patterson is nursing a side strain. The prospect of facing this trio in such conditions hardly bore thinking about, although Atherton, as is his way, seemed to relish the challenge.



Crawley launches a rare attacking stroke during England's struggle for runs

Deprived of the pace off the pitch he needs to deflect and divert, his progress was inevitably tortured and he survived only by skill, judgment and a share of luck. Knowing what to leave was paramount.

Like his captain, Crawley showed great patience and fortitude. Perhaps, at last, he will now fulfil himself. His England career has suffered through injuries, fluctuating confidence of selectors and uncertainty over his best position, but he is technically and temperamentally suited to going in first wicket down.

Crawley must have anticipated his first four in the seventh over, when a cover drive beat the infield. As was to happen time after time, though, the ball bobbled to a stop in the long grass 20 yards from the boundary. It was not until 15 minutes before lunch, in the 28th over, that a boundary was struck.

By then, the attendance had grown to the size of a respectable county crowd and the mood of the weather had swung, the deep blue skies and withering heat of early morning replaced by threatening low cloud. Jamaica, led by Jimmy Adams, had also employed spin at both ends, doubtless to the relief of the batsmen, and England lunched at 53 for one.

When play resumed, conditions could in no way be blamed for Atherton's dismissal, for he clipped an amiable half-volley from Powell to square leg, but Nasser Hussain instantly discovered that, from a consistent length, the ball could bounce anywhere between shin and shoulder.

Refusing to be shackled, he dispatched anything loose and set the scoreboard moving at a healthier rate. Indeed England, who might easily have been sorely embarrassed on this surface, began to look past the worst until Crawley, sent back by Hussain, was needlessly run out. Hussain was then out in similar fashion to Atherton, leaving England precariously placed at 78 for four.

### SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND: First Innings

| | |
|---|---|
| *M A Atherton c Murphy b Powell | 28 |
| A J Stewart c Breese b Richards | 1 |
| J P Crawley run out | 25 |
| N Hussain c Adams b Breese | 15 |
| G P Thorpe not out | 6 |
| A J Hollioake not out | 1 |
| Extras | 6 |
| Total (4 wkts) | 82 |

†R C Russell, A R Caddick, D W Headley, A R C Fraser and P C R Tufnell to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-55, 3-73, 4-77.

JAMAICA: L V Garrick, R G Samuels, W W Hinds, *J C Adams, M D Ventura, G Breese, L R Williams, †A N Coley, B S Murphy, K Powell, O Richards.

Umpires: S A Bucknor and C Fletcher.

## SPORT IN BRIEF

# No end to Maier's winning streak

■ **SKIING:** Hermann Maier, of Austria, won the first of two men's World Cup downhills in Wengen to claim his eighth win of the season yesterday. After repeated delays because of poor visibility, Maier sped down a shortened Lauberhorn course in 1min 44.89sec for his fifth win in a row.

It was the Austriamen's team's fifteenth victory in 20 races but their first in a Wengen downhill since 1985. It was also Maier's second downhill win of the season and the twelfth time in 15 races he has stepped on the podium.

## Price on course

■ **BOWLS: John Price, who is lined up to succeed Richard Corsie as the chairman of the Professional Bowls Association at the players' annual meeting tomorrow, defeated Robert Weale, his fellow Welshman, 7-2, 6-7, 7-2 in the semi-finals of the CIS Welsh Masters at Llanelli yesterday. He will meet David Gourlay, the 1996 world indoor singles champion, in the final.**

## Goodway's role

■ **RUGBY LEAGUE:** Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach, is set to return to Wigan, where he spent seven years as a player, as assistant coach to John Monie.

## Bicknell blow

■ **CRICKET: Darren Bicknell, 30, the Surrey opener, is likely to be out of action until the end of July after being diagnosed as having a stress fracture of the back.**

## Rott recruited

■ **HOCKEY:** Southgate *have recruited Eiko Rott, a* Germany international forward. He will be available next weekend.

## No go Museeuw

■ **CYCLING: Johan Museeuw, of Belgium, the former world champion, said yesterday he had decided not to enter the Tour de France again.**

# Ntini makes fine start as South Africa's first black player

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MAKHAYA NTINI, a fast bowler, made an immediate impact as the first black cricketer to represent South Africa at international level in a heavy defeat of New Zealand in Perth yesterday.

Ntini, a Xhosa speaker from the Border region and a product of the township development programme, was a prominent performer in a 67-run victory in a World Series Cup day-night match.

He claimed the wickets of Stephen Fleming, the New Zealand captain, and Adam Parore, the wicketkeeper, in two impressive spells. South Africa, inspired by a maiden limited-overs century from Jacques Kallis, scored 233 for seven in their 50 overs before dismissing New Zealand for 166 with almost five overs to spare at the WACA ground.

Ntini, who also held a catch and fielded well, bowled with genuine pace and troubled all the New Zealand batsmen who faced him. He finished with two for 31 in his 10 overs.

Brothers, Grant and Andy Flower, struck half-centuries to enhance Zimbabwe's prospects of winning the second and final Test against Sri Lanka in Colombo. Zimbabwe, who had a first-innings lead of 26, ended the third day at 241 for six to lead overall by 267 on a slow-turning pitch with two days left.

Grant Flower, dropped by Jayasuriya at 17 in the second over, went on to his first half-century of the series. He made 52 in 174 minutes, with four fours, before being bowled by Jayasuriya. Andy Flower played a sedate innings to remain unbeaten on 61 at the close, having batted for 228 minutes and hit five fours and a six.

A rapid half-century by Saeed Anwar spurred Pakistan to a six-wicket victory over India that levelled the best-of-three Independence Cup final series in Dhaka yesterday.

Pakistan's success was set up by a seven-wicket haul from Muhammad Hussain and Saqlain Mushtaq, the off spinners, who helped to dismiss India for 189 in 49.5 of their 50 overs. Saeed scored 51 in 40 balls as Pakistan raced home at 193 for four in 31.3 overs.

Desmond Haynes, 41, dismissed as Sussex head coach last season, has joined Malcolm Marshall, his former West Indies team-mate, at Hampshire as a specialist batting coach.



Haynes: joining Marshall

## FOR THE RECORD

### CRICKET

**Second Test match**

**Sri Lanka v Zimbabwe**

*COLOMBO (third day of five). Zimbabwe, with four second-innings wickets in hand, are 267 runs ahead of Sri Lanka*

ZIMBABWE: First innings 251 (M W Goodwin 73, G J Rennie 50)

SRI LANKA: First innings 225 (A Ranatunga 52, R S Kaluwitharana 51; P A Strang 4-77).

ZIMBABWE: *Second Innings*

| | |
|---|---|
| G J Rennie c Kaluwitharana b de Silva | 12 |
| G W Flower b Jayasuriya | 52 |
| A R Whittall c Kaluwitharana b de Silva | 2 |
| M W Goodwin b Jayasuriya | 39 |
| G J Whittall c Jayasuriya b Muralitharan | 17 |
| †A Flower not out | 61 |
| *A D R Campbell c Kaluwitharana b Arunlain | 37 |
| C B Wishart not out | 14 |
| Extras (lb 5, w 1, nb 1) | 7 |
| Total (6 wkts) | 241 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-34, 3-104, 4-117, 5-129, 6-204.

BOWLING: Pushpakumara 8-1-34-0; de Silva 19-4-48-2; Muralitharan 34-7-70-1; Arunlain 19-7-41-1; Jayasuriya 24-9-43-2.

Umpires: Saleem Bader (Pakistan) and K Francis (Sri Lanka).

**World Series Cup**

**South Africa v New Zealand**

*PERTH. (South Africa won toss). South Africa beat New Zealand by 67 runs*

SOUTH AFRICA

| | |
|---|---|
| Kirsten run out | 44 |
| L Klusener c Vettori b O'Connor | 4 |
| J H Kallis c Fleming b McMillan | 111 |
| D J Cullinan c Harris b Cairns | 28 |
| H H Gibbs c and b Harris | 8 |
| *W J Cronje c O'Connor b Cairns | 6 |
| J N Rhodes c O'Connor b Astle | 2 |
| S M Pollock not out | 22 |
| P L Symcox not out | 5 |
| Extras(lb 2, w 3) | 5 |
| Total (7 wkts, 50 overs) | 233 |

†M V Boucher and M Ntini did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-98, 3-171, 4-194, 5-199, 6-203, 7-211.

BOWLING: O'Connor 8-0-27-1; Cairns 10-1-50-2; Nash 8-0-41-0; Harris 10-0-39-1; Astle 9-0-35-1; Vettori 4-0-22-0; McMillan 3-0-13-1.

NEW ZEALAND

| | |
|---|---|
| B A Young c Ntini b Symcox | 34 |
| C M Spearman c Rhodes b Pollock | 13 |
| *S P Fleming c Boucher b Ntini | 26 |
| C D McMillan c Gibbs b Symcox | 11 |
| N J Astle c Cullinan b Pollock | 18 |
| C L Cairns c Gibbs b Pollock | 17 |
| C Z Harris lbw Kallis | 4 |
| †A C Parore c Boucher b Ntini | 8 |
| D J Nash c Gibbs b Kallis | 15 |
| D L Vettori run out | 4 |
| S B O'Connor not out | 2 |
| Extras (lb 3, nb 1, w 10) | 14 |
| Total (45.1 overs) | 166 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-60, 3-88, 4-89, 5-124, 6-127, 7-138, 8-144, 9-151.

BOWLING: Pollock 10-0-28-3; Klusener 8-1-41-0; Symcox 8-0-37-2; Ntini 10-0-31-2; Kallis 9.1-1-26-2.

**Independence Cup**

**India v Pakistan**

*DHAKA (India won toss). Pakistan beat India by six wickets*

INDIA

| | |
|---|---|
| S C Ganguly c and b Mohammad | 26 |
| S R Tendulkar b Azhar | 7 |
| *M Azharuddin c Aqib b Mohammad | 66 |
| N Sidhu c Azhar b Mohammad | 6 |
| A Jadeja c and b Aqib | 34 |
| R R Singh c Shahid b Mohammad | 5 |
| †N R Mongia c Asmir b Saqlain | 10 |
| S V Bahutule st Rashid b Saqlain | 11 |
| J Srinath b Aqib | 12 |
| H Singh not out | 3 |
| D S Mohanty c Ijaz Ahmed b Saqlain Mushtaq | 4 |
| Extras (lb 3, nb 3, w 5) | 11 |
| Total (49.5 overs) | 189 |

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-62, 3-96, 4-116, 5-124, 6-151, 7-167, 8-182, 9-184.

BOWLING: Aqib Jawed 10-0-49-2; Azhar Mahmood 7-1-28-1; Saqlain Mushtaq 9.5-0-36-3; Mohammad Hussain 10-1-33-4; Shahid Afridi 10-2-21-0; Manzoor Akhtar 3-0-19-0.

PAKISTAN

| | |
|---|---|
| Aamir Sohail c Azharuddin b R R Singh | 36 |
| Saeed Anwar c Ganguly b H Singh | 51 |
| Shahid Afridi c Bahutule b Srinath | 21 |
| Inzamam-ul-Haq c Sidhu b R R Singh | 40 |
| Ijaz Ahmed not out | 40 |
| Mohammad Hussain not out | 0 |
| Extras (lb 2, nb 2, w 1) | 5 |
| Total (3 wkts, 31.3 overs) | 193 |

*†Rashid Latif, Manzoor Akhtar, Azhar Mahmood, Saqlain Mushtaq and Aqib Javed did not bat.*

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-31, 2-105, 3-123, 4-189.

BOWLING: Srinath 7-1-38-1; Mohanty 2-0-26-0; H Singh 5-0-33-1; Bahutule 5-0-53-0; R R Singh 9-3-24-2; Tendulkar 3.3-0-17-0.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD (second day of four): *Hobart:* South Australia 264; Tasmania 303-2 (D F Hills 134 not out, J Cox 73).

### BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 100 Detroit 93; Toronto 109 Los Angeles Clippers 101; Atlanta 108 Dallas 92; Washington 79 San Antonio 89; Milwaukee 101 Golden State 95; Los Angeles Lakers 132 Denver 114; Sacramento 108 Orlando 96.

### BOWLS

LLANELLI: GIS Welsh Masters: Quarter-finals: D Gourley (Sco) bt A Thomson (Eng) 7-4, 3-7, 7-6; J Price (Wal) bt L Gillett (Eng) 5-7, 7-2, 7-5; R Weale (Wales) bt R Corsie (Scot) 7-3, 5-7, 7-1; H Duff (Sco) bt I Schuback (Aus) 7-4, 7-1. Semi-finals: Price bt Weale 7-2, 6-7, 7-2.

### FOOTBALL

Thursday's late results

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Queens Park Rangers 3 Wimbledon 0.

FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Dundalk 0 Derry 1.

OPTIMUM INTERIORS: General Conference league: Gloucester 0 Hereford 1.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Longney Sports 2 Whitehawk 2.

SPANISH CUP: Fourth round, first leg: Osasuna 0 Deportivo La Coruña 1; Real Sociedad 0 Real Betis 2; Real Zaragoza 2 Atlético Madrid 0; Real Valladolid 1 Mérida 1; Mallorca 1 Celta Vigo 0; Extremadura 2 Athletic Bilbao 0.

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Morocco 2 Angola 1 (in Casablanca); Ghana 0 Mozambique 0 (in Accra).

### ICE HOCKEY

EXPRESS CUP: Basingstoke Bison 2 Sheffield Steelers 5; Cardiff Devils 2 Manchester Storm 2 (OT)

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Boston 5 Pittsburgh 2; Carolina 1 Chicago 4; Detroit 4 Vancouver 0; New Jersey 4 New York Rangers 1; Philadelphia 3 Montreal 2 (OT); Tampa Bay 1 New York Islanders 7; Toronto 1 Buffalo 4; St Louis 1 Dallas 2 (OT); Edmonton 5 Calgary 2; Phoenix 3 Florida 2; Anaheim 0 Colorado 2; San Jose 2 Los Angeles 4

### ICE SKATING

MILAN: European Figure Skating championships: Men: Final standings: 1, A Yagudin (Rus) 1.5pts; 2, V Plushenko (Rus) 3.5; 3, A Abt (Rus) 5.0; 4, S Cousins (GB) 9.5. Compulsory and Original ice dancing: 1, A Krylova and O Ovsyannikov (Rus), 1.4 total factored placings; 2, P Grishuk and E Platov (Rus), 1.6; 3, M Anissina and G Peizerat (Fr), 3.0.

### MOTOR RALLYING

DAKAR RALLY: Fourteenth Stage (Tidjikja to Atar, 394km): Cars: 1, B Saby (Fr, Mitsubishi) 5hr 32min 38sec; 2, K Shinozuka (Japan, Mitsubishi) at 1min 55sec; 3, J-P Fontenay (Fr, Mitsubishi) 3:40; 4, D Houssaux (Fr, Nissan) 1:15:55; 5, H Masuoka (Japan, Mitsubishi) 1:28:17. Bikes: 1, G Jimmink (Holl, KTM) 5hr 44min 52sec; 2, F Meoni (It, KTM) at 5min 51sec; 3, A Cox (SA, KTM) 6:32; 4, S Peteramerai (Fr, Yamaha) 8:50; 5, A Haydon (Aus, KTM) 11:23.

### SKIING

WENGEN, Switzerland: World Cup Men's Downhill: 1, H Maier (Austria) 1min 44.89sec; 2, N Burtin (Fr) 1:45.57; 3, A Schifferer (Austria) 1:45.61; 4, H Knauss (Austria) 1 46.02; 5, S Eberharter (Austria) 1:46.16.

### SNOOKER

NEWPORT: Welsh Open: J Burnett (Scot) wo J Woodman (Eng); P Hunter (Eng) bt P Wykes (Eng) 5-3; J Johnson (Eng) wo L Griffin (Eng); E Henderson (Scot) bt L Richardson (Eng) 5-3; B Jones (England) bt C Scanlon (Eng) 5-2; S Mooroos (Eng) bt K Payne (Eng) 5-4; G Greene (Eng) bt D Clarke (Eng) 5-3; S O'Connor (Ire) bt S Ali (Pak) 5-1; M Davis (Eng) bt C MacGillivray (Scot) 5-2; S Storey (Eng) bt M Judge (Ire) 5-4, N Walker (Eng) bt J Machie (Eng) 5-2.

### SWIMMING

PERTH, Australia: World championships: Men: Breaststroke: 200m: Final: 1, K Grote (US) 2min 13.40sec; 2, J-C Samin (Fr) 2:13.42; 3, N Rozsa (Hun) 2:13.68; 4, S Cowley (Aus) 2:13.84; 5, R Mitchell (Aus) 2:14.40; 6, B Kuipers (Holl) 2:15.34; 7, T Williams (US) 2:15.41; 8, A Soukov (Bela) 2:15.51. Butterfly: 100m: Final: 1, M Klim (Aus) 52.25sec; 2, L Frolander (Swe) 52.79; 3, G Huegill (Aus) 52.90; 4, F Esposito (Fr) 52.94; 5, J Kezer (Holl) 53.37; 6, T Yamamoto (Japan) 53.53; 7, D Silantiev (Ukr) 53.59; 8, P Horvath (Hun) 53.60. B Final: 1, J Heikman (GB) 53.85. Non-qualifiers: Heat Seven: 7, S Parry (GB) 55.35. Heat Nine: 6, J Hickman (GB) 54.34

Women: Individual Medley: 4 x 50m: Final: 1, Wu Yanyan (China) 2min 10.88sec; 2, Chen Yan (China) 2:13.88; 3, M Morozevue (Slovakia) 2:14.26; 4, Y Klochkova (Ukr) 2:15.01; 5, M Crippon (US) and M Limpert (Can) 2:16.02; 7, B Casiaru (Rom) 2:16.20; 8, E Overton (Aus) 2:16.74. B final: 3, S Ralph (GB) 2:17.33. Medley Relay: 4 x 100m: Final: 1, United States 4min 01.93sec. 2, Australia 4:05.12; 3, Japan 4:06.27; 4, Germany 4:08.90; 5, Hungary 4:11.41; 6, Netherlands 4:11.73; 7, Great Britain 4.13.33. Disqualified: Belgium.

Diving: Women: Synchronized Platform Final: 1, O Zhupyna and S Serbina (Ukr) 278.28 pts; 2, Chen Li and Cai Yuyan (China) 276.54; 3, K Link and L Long (US) 265.47

Water Polo: Women: Final round: Italy 7 Netherlands 6. Bronze medal play-off: Australia 8 Russia 5. Minor placing play-off matches: New Zealand 9 Kazakhstan 7; Spain 8 Brazil 4; Hungary 10 United States 7; Greece 10 Canada 9.

### TENNIS

SYDNEY: Sydney International: Men: Semi-final: T Henman (GB) bt P Rafter (Aus) 7-6, 7-5; K Kucera (Slovenia) bt M Tebbutt (Aus) 5-4, 6-7, 6-0. Women: Quarter-finals: Al Sugiyama (Japan) bt B Paulus (Austria) 6-2, 6-3. Semi-finals: A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt S Williams (US) 6-2, 6-1; V Williams (US) bt Sugiyama 6-1, 7-6

MELBOURNE: Colonial Classic: Semi-final: M Philippoussis (Aus) bt G Kuerten (Bz) 6-4, 3-6, 7-5. Consolation Round: G Rusedski (GB) bt T Muster (Austria) 6-3, 7-6; A Medvedev (Ukr) bt P Sampras (US) 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

JOIN THE COWDREYS ON EXCLUSIVE CARIBBEAN TEST MATCH TOURS

*Barbados or Antigua*

*07-18 March 1998*

7 nights from

£1,990

includes:

* Scheduled flights ex UK
* Guaranteed Test Tickets
* First class hotels

*Plus an invitation to our private social events with Lord Cowdrey, Chris and Graham*

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

*Call the Caribbean specialists:*

CARIBTOURS

0171 581 3517

# Flawed financial plan passes buck to Government

**Self-help is the solution to secure a viable future for the industry, Richard Evans suggests**

In the rarefied world of Westminster and Whitehall, where the fate of racing's financial plan will be determined, there is a well-known political maxim as reliable as the strongest form line available at Ascot today.

It runs like this: any Budget — the nation's financial plan — which is hailed as a masterpiece and receives rave reviews in the following day's press, invariably proves to be a disaster in the long run. Similarly, a Budget greeted with howls of indignation from MPs and condemnation by pundits is odds-on to be to the country's benefit in the years ahead.

I have a strong feeling that racing's budget, almost universally praised after its launch on Wednesday, will suffer the same destiny. In the same way, I expect my outlined views on how racing can forge a more viable future to be roundly derided — for a while.

It is easy to understand why racing's financial blueprint was voted an instant success. First, the sport has never had such a plan, so it represented progress. Second, its chief architect, Peter Savill, presented the plan superbly. Third, and most important, it avoided any painful decisions for the industry and shifted the responsibility on to Government.

The sport needs an extra £80 million a year from betting turnover, the argument goes, and only Government can make this happen. So it is up to the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, to provide it. How could anyone disagree? Unfortunately, life is not that simple.

After careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that the plan is flawed in terms of logic, economics, and politics. Worst of all, it looks at racing's problems through the wrong end of a telescope.

The plan fails to justify the need for its demands. How can it? The table shows the levy return to racing from betting has increased more than six-fold — 90 per cent in real terms — since 1975. On top of that, there has been substantial income from SIS and sponsorship. If there was such a shortage of cash, why has the number of races increased by a third and horses in training grown by 20 per cent — unless it was to meet demand from more owners? Why, therefore, does racing need 2,400 new owners and 3,400 more horses, as the plan envisages?

As for the idea that Government will gain an extra £110 million a year in direct taxes if it hands over £80 million to racing, Treasury mandarins will find that as convincing as the argument — already derided privately by big bookmakers — that betting turnover will go up by £450 million and their profits will be boosted by £50 million.

Even if you accept the plan's economic arguments, a greater faith is required to believe that Government — any Government — will hand over £80 million of tax, whether from betting duty or imposed on bookmaker profits, to racing.

Contrary to popular belief in Newmarket and Lambourn, the world does not revolve around racing. In fact, most people — including MPs and ministers — regard it as little more than an amusing distraction from life's daily rigours. Tony Blair would be condemned across the political spectrum, and rightly so, for funding the pleasure of Sheikh Mohammed, Savill, and others — at the expense of ordinary people's education and health.

This means that the much-vaunted plan is a non-starter. Worse, it could be viewed as so unrealistic by Government that legitimate demands for reform of the gaming laws and levy system could be put back years.

However, that does not mean British racing must be condemned to a future of low prize-money levels. Far from it. But the action which must be taken to streamline a bloated sport continually pandering to mediocrity is painful and will cause uproar among vested interests.

**HOW THE BUSINESS HAS EXPANDED**

| | 1975 | 1980 | 1990 | 1997 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| INCOME FROM LEVY | £7.9m | £15.5m | £36.4m | £49m |
| HORSES IN TRAINING | 11,491 | 12,528 | 13,909 | 13,757 |
| NUMBER OF RACES | 5,573 | 5,625 | 7,019 | 7,460 |

Sources: Weatherbys and Horserace Betting Levy Board

Put simply, the problems are not due so much to a shortage of money, but, rather, how the money is spent. Instead of spreading £50 million of levy ever thinner to support more horses and races — most of them low quality — racing should pursue the opposite strategy and make more concentrated use of its cash by funding the best at the expense of the worst.

Why should racing continue to support 59 racecourses and protect them from the harsh economic realities of everyday life, especially as most have done precious little to help themselves? Since 1981, this country has suffered two economic recessions, yet not one racecourse has been forced to close.

If the number of racecourses receiving full Levy Board funding was halved, prize-money would increase dramatically. A premier league of top racecourses would be far more attractive to the racegoer, the punter, would-be sponsors, and television — and would increase revenue totals.

Yes, a few courses would go to the wall: why should badly managed, uneconomic tracks be kept alive at the expense of better-run, more entrepreneurial courses? But many would survive, even with small purses. The point-to-point world demonstrates repeatedly that prize-money which barely creeps into three figures a race is not a deterrent to success.

Such streamlining should not affect betting turnover or levy drastically. It matters not whether there are 4,000 or 8,000 races a year; punters still have the same amount of money to lose. If bookmakers need more races, they can fund them.

The end result would be a healthy, internationally competitive industry, where excellence was richly rewarded. The difficulty is that hardly anyone in racing — least of all the Levy Board — dares face up to the painful decisions which have to be taken.

Instead, the differing factions continue to put off the day when they confront reality by hiding behind the false hope offered by a new financial plan. Savill should enjoy his status as racing's messiah while it lasts. When the honeymoon ends around the time of the Cheltenham Festival, the sense of disappointment will be intense. Perhaps, only then, he and others will realise racing must sort out its troubles — rather than sending a bill to Government.

# Fitzgerald to collect with Native Mission

By Chris McGrath

HE HAS always made his own luck, generally with the bookmakers looking the other way. Nonetheless, Jimmy Fitzgerald might feel due a change of fortune as he tries to revive the days when his Malton stables sheltered the likes of Forgive N'Forget and Galway Blaze — names that will forever haunt bookmakers such as Victor Chandler, who sponsors today's feature race at Ascot.

The prices they offer against Native Mission might imply that he, if not his trainer, is no longer the menace of old. Fitzgerald, however, has always excelled with veterans: one of his two previous winners of this event was another 11-year-old, Meikleour.

True, Native Mission has never been the most relaxing medium for a bet. He often finds little, and embraces such contradictory preferences as a test of speed (he barely stays) and soft ground (which saps his stamina). However, he could prove the each-way value in a race that should be run to suit — and where there are drawbacks about his rivals.

The top four in the handicap belong to last season's crop of novices, which has yet to confirm its quality over this distance. Mulligan can be opposed under his big weight in this testing ground, having lost his jumping rhythm since being raised in class. Or Royal, also still less than fluent, is an awkward ride.

While Celibate ran a fine trial over course and distance last month, he may not want conditions this soft, and Leotard could well reverse form if jumping better. Jeffell is more interesting, representing Arthur Moore. He ran dreadfully here in the autumn, but showed more dash against Dorans Pride at Fairyhouse subsequently.

The Irish raider should generate a good pace upsides another grey, Arctic Kinsman. He must be considered now that his stable has hit form but is prone to mistakes. Cumbrian Challenge owes his winning spree in the North to some lenient handicapping, while Lord Dorcet, flattered against Viking Flagship at Wetherby last time, may need further.

Normally a superb jumper, Native Mission made an uncharacteristic error in that Wetherby race. He had earlier confirmed that he retains his ability, however, winning at Newbury. If covered up for as long as possible off the likely strong pace, Native Mission could yet win a few converts.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Zafarabad, far side, makes a winning debut over hurdles at Kempton yesterday

## WARWICK

THUNDERER

1.00 Key Grip
1.30 Boardroom Shuffle
2.05 Bakkar
2.35 Ceridwen
3.10 Princeful
3.40 Jibber The Kibber
4.10 Kinnahalla

GOING: SOFT (CHASE COURSE); HEAVY (HURDLES) SIS

### 1.00 HAMPTON HILL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,399: 2m) (17 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 325 | LORD RICHFIELD 35 (Harris Associates) S Brookshaw 7-11-10 | C Maude | 128 |
| 2 | 0/24411 | KEY GRIP 16 (D,S) (Hyndburn Bridge Racing) Mrs S Smith 7-11-7 | G F Ryan (5) | 126 |
| 3 | 13SU-3 | FRYS NO FOOL 53 (D,S) (Frys No Fool Partnership) J Old 8-11-4 | L Harvey | 103 |
| 4 | 63/2-0 | MILAK 17 (D Jackson) J L Harris 6-11-2 | J R Kavanagh | – |
| 5 | 0-54R | CABALLUS 22 (Salamm Racing) Mrs J Pitman 5-11-2 | D Leahy | 95 |
| 6 | 0-31644 | CLAIRE'S DANCER 21 (D,F) (Mrs C Hollowood) A Turnell 5-11-1 | C Rae (7) | 117 |
| 7 | 06166 | FABULON 21 (F) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-10-12 | D Fuhrmann | 96 |
| 8 | /0004-0 | HILLS GAMBLE 32 (J Hill) P Bevan 6-10-7 | W Worthington | 103 |
| 9 | P5P-643 | HEART 54 (C & S Brasher) Miss H Knight 5-10-6 | J Power (7) | 108 |
| 10 | 5F0P-11 | STUDIO THIRTY 22 (G,S) (D & C Holder) R Dickin 6-10-3 | X Aizpuru (5) | 120 |
| 11 | PF64- | STARTINGO 248 (R Brown) R Brown 5-10-0 | R Bellamy | 100 |
| 12 | 361 | ZAHAALIE 31 (G) (C Wroe) J Pickering 6-10-0 | W Marston | 118 |
| 13 | 4-P2256 | MOONLIGHT ESCAPADE 58 (F) (P Slade) R Hodges 7-10-0 | T Dascombe | 107 |
| 14 | '22-052 | NIFAAF 37 (A Penney) K Morgan 6-10-0 | R Thornton | 112 |
| 15 | 000P-0 | MURRAY'S MILLION 17 (Cotswold Connection) J Smith 6-10-0 | T J Murphy | 87 |
| 16 | 0/0400 | KARACHI 35 (J Joseph) J Joseph 8-10-0 | J Goldstein (7) | 90 |
| 17 | PP0/3/0 | COME ON RISK ME 22 (H Ormesher) D McCain 7-10-0 | T Jenks | 79 |

Long handicap: Moonlight Escapade 9-12, Nifaaf 9-12, Murray's Million 9-10, Karachi 9-10, Come On Risk Me 9-5.

BETTING: 4-1 Key Grip, 5-1 Studio Thirty, 7-1 Heart, 10-1 Lord Richfield, Caballus, Claire's Dancer, Zahaalie, Nifaaf, 12-1 others.

1997: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

### 1.30 ROSCOE HARVEY MEMORIAL NOVICES CHASE
(£5,472: 2m 4f 110yd) (12 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1111-F1 | BOARDROOM SHUFFLE 43 (D,F,G,S) (A Weller) J Gifford 7-11-10 | L Aspell (3) | 126 |
| 2 | /3212-2 | ABSOLUTLY EQUINAME 29 (G) (F Sainsbury) M Heaton-Ellis 7-11-0 | B Powell | 118 |
| 3 | 0065-6 | CALM DOWN 52 (Mrs A Wates) T Casey 7-11-0 | W Marston | – |
| 4 | P.PP0-5 | CAPTAIN MY CAPTAIN 31 (G,S) (Ancient Mariners) R Brotherton 10-11-0 | S Curran | – |
| 5 | 1- | CHEVAL DE GUERRE 321P (S) (John Stanley) Y Bailey 7-11-0 | Mr R Wakley (5) | – |
| 6 | 3-13466P | CROCKNAMOHILL 32 (Mrs C Kelly) K Bridgwater 7-11-0 | L Harvey | 86 |
| 7 | 00/50-P | FROWN 22 (S) (Towy Valley Plant Ltd) P Bowen 8-11-0 | T J Murphy | – |
| 8 | 060/ | JOE'S BIRTHDAY 665 (Birthday Partnership) P R Webber 8-11-0 | Mr P Scott | – |
| 9 | 5122-3P | STEP ON EYRE 54 (D,G,S) (Anne Duchess of Westminster) T Forster 8-11-0 | C Maude | 114 |
| 10 | .R11-P4 | THE COCKERTOO 16 (G) (G Porter) R Alner 7-11-0 | P Holley | – |
| 11 | 50 | TOPPERILLO 17 (Mrs R Stocks) J McConnochie 5-11-0 | S McNeill | – |
| 12 | 1211-3P | MOTOQUA 33 (D,F) (Mrs E Pegna & Mrs I Smee) D Nicholson 6-10-9 | R Thornton | – |

BETTING: 1-2 Boardroom Shuffle, 7-1 Absolutly Equiname, 8-1 Step On Eyre, 10-1 Cheval De Guerre, Motoqua, 25-1 Calm Down, The Cockertoo, 33-1 others.

### 2.05 MCMAHON CONTRACTORS SERVICES LTD JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £4,713: 2m) (7 runners) C4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 101 | TOM TAILOR 16 (D,G,S) (A A Partnership) D Elsworth 11-5 | P Holley | 109 |
| 2 | | BAKKAR 107F (M Burke's 5th Family Settlement) D Nicholson 11-0 | R Thornton | – |
| 3 | 0 | COBLE 28 (C Bigley Partnership Ltd) D McCain 11-0 | T Jenks | 87 |
| 4 | 0 | GOLDEN SADDLE 36 (Bd Of A Mor Partners) D Wintle 11-0 | W Marston | – |
| 5 | 2336 | LETTYFAK 36 (B) (Mr & Mrs J Poynton) I Williams 11-0 | C Maude | 115 |
| 6 | 52 | AFTER HOURS 28 (After Hours Partnership) D Ffrench Davis 10-9 | J Magee (3) | – |
| 7 | 0 | MARYTAVY 28 (B Halbway) P R Webber 10-9 | B Powell | – |

BETTING: 4-5 Bakkar, 2-1 Tom Tailor, 10-1 After Hours, 14-1 Lettyfak, 20-1 Coble, 25-1 Marytavy, 33-1 Golden Saddle.

FORM FOCUS Tom Tailor beat Rainbow Star 7l in 9-runner novice hurdle at Exeter (2m 2f, heavy), previously 37l 7th of 11 to Real Estate in novice hurdle at Ascot (2m 110yd, soft). Bakkar useful middle-distance performer on Flat in Ireland. Coble 35l 9th of 14 to Kilbride Lad in novice hurdle at Haydock (2m, good to soft) with Marytavy (levels) 40l 10th. Lettyfak 38l 6th of 13 to Sound Appeal in 3yo novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1f, good) with Golden Saddle (levels) a distance 12th. After Hours 3l 2nd of 11 to Silent Valley in novice selling hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m, good to soft) previously 26l 5th of 12 to Kingsdown Trix in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f 110yd, soft).

TOM TAILOR can edge out the interesting newcomer Bakkar

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Ascot: 3.55 Harbet House. Lingfield Park: 2.10 Prince Of Salsa. 3.20 Mendoza. Newcastle: 3.00 Jymjam Johnny. Warwick: 2.05 Lettyfak.

### 2.35 TOTE WARWICK NATIONAL CHASE
(Handicap: £10,952: 3m 5f) (16 runners) C4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 23RU-5F | SISTER STEPHANIE 7 (S) (Antwick Pins) G McCourt 9-11-13 | Mr D Harney (7) | 128 |
| 2 | /1103-6 | PARSONS BOY 28 (G,S) (B Ridge & D Hewett) G Richards 9-11-12 | B Harding | 140 |
| 3 | 420-51P | EVANGELICA 21 (C,F,S) (M Pipe Racing Club) M Pipe 8-11-12 | D Fuhrmann | 130 |
| 4 | /013-65 | JET RULES 22 (B,G,S) (Jet Stationery) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-12 | D Leahy | 118 |
| 5 | 400-U54 | KILLESHIN 21 (G,S) (H Manners) H Manners 12-11-7 | S Curran | 150 |
| 6 | 113132R | DANGER BABY 16 (B,F,G,S) (Shark Racing) P Bowen 9-11-7 | W Marston | 130 |
| 7 | 33F-F2P | FULL OF OATS 7 (CD,G,S) (M Bradford) Miss H Knight 12-11-6 | B Hogan (3) | 140 |
| 8 | U2P2-33 | HATCHAM BOY 56 (BF,G,S) (R Marjan Green) D Nicholson 5-11-3 | R Thornton | 143 |
| 9 | 24/21-1 | MARTELL BOY 224 (G,S) (O Jones) Miss V Williams 11-11-2 | T J Murphy | 145 |
| 10 | P0R-45P | GRANGE BRAKE 28 (B,F,G,S) (Mrs J Mould) N Twiston-Davies 12-11-2 | C Maude | 139 |
| 11 | 403/F-1 | OVER THE DEEL 49 (C,F,G,S) (G Tobutt) P Mooney 12-10-12 | L Aspell (3) | 137 |
| 12 | /320-30 | A N C EXPRESS 7 (S) (H Porter) J King 10-10-11 | T Jenks | 143 |
| 13 | 10-U2P2 | CHURCH LAW 18 (G,S) (Mrs L Taylor) Mrs L Taylor 11-10-8 | J R Kavanagh | 140 |
| 14 | 6P21-43 | MISS DISKIN 35 (C,G,S) (M Forrester) R Buckler 9-10-6 | B Powell | 139 |
| 15 | 412-11R | TOP JAVALIN 31 (G,S) (Mrs V Thum) N Hawke 11-10-4 | R Greene | 138 |
| 16 | 0/511-1 | CERIDWEN 22 (S) (Mrs S Greathead) T Greathead 9-10-0 | W Worthington | 137 |

BETTING: 6-1 Martell Boy, 7-1 Danger Baby, 8-1 Hatcham Boy, Over The Deel, 9-1 Full Of Oats, 10-1 Evangelica, A N C Express, Ceridwen, 12-1 others

FORM FOCUS Parsons Boy 45l last of 6 to High Altitude in handicap chase at Haydock (3m 4f, good to soft). Jet Rules 37l 6th of 10 to Buckhouse Boy in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft). Killeshin 15l 4th of 14 to Earth Summit in handicap chase grade I at Chepstow (3m 5f, heavy) with Evangelica (3lb worse off) pulled up. Hatcham Boy 7½l 3rd of 4 to God Speed You in handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good to soft). Martell Boy beat Gems Lad 8l in 14-runner handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7f, good). Over The Deel beat Fuppance short head in 6-runner handicap chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good to soft) with Full Of Oats (6lb better off) fell and Church Law (7lb better off) pulled up. A N C Express 63l 7th of 14 to Him Of Praise in handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5f, good to soft) with Sister Stephanie (5lb worse off) fell and Full Of Oats (5lb worse off) pulled up. Church Law 8l 2nd of 5 to Coole Hill in handicap chase at Stratford (3m, soft). Miss Diskin 19l 3rd of 5 to Sail By The Stars in handicap chase at Lingfield (3m, soft) with Sister Stephanie (8lb worse off) 39l last. Top Javalin refused in handicap chase at Bangor (4m 1f, good to soft). Ceridwen beat Master Boston 28l in 5-runner handicap chase at Market Rasen (4m 1f, heavy).

MARTELL BOY, lightly raced, could improve past some exposed types

### 3.10 IAN WILLIAMS OWNERS GOLD CARD HANDICAP HURDLE
(Qualifier: £8,168: 2m 4f 110yd) (26 runners) C4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2024/4- | SOHRAB 310 (S) (J & J Richards) M Pipe 10-11-10 | J Huet (7) | 149 |
| 2 | 2FF-P4P | PLEASURE SHARED 28 (F,G,S) (T Eaves) P Hobbs 10-11-9 | G Tormey | 138 |
| 3 | 2235/0- | GILLAN COVE 329 (S) (M Lockyer) R Alner 9-11-6 | P Holley | 138 |
| 4 | 12P-241 | PRINCEFUL 16 (G,S) (R Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 7-10-12 | G Hogan (3) | 145 |
| 5 | 111 | LORD JIM 7 (G,S) (Mrs S Thomas) J Old 6-10-5 | D J Moffatt | 156 |
| 6 | 313-611 | SPLENDID THYNE 35 (C,S) (J Salamoni) T Casey 6-10-4 | W Marston | 154 |
| 7 | 11112F3 | COUCHANT 42 (D,F,G) (Teltone Racing) M Pipe 7-10-3 | G Supple (5) | 182 |
| 8 | 311-118 | SPENDID 28 (BF,G,S) (Mrs S Catherwood) D Nicholson 6-10-1 | R Thornton | 154 |
| 9 | 2F2-61R | ANGELO'S DOUBLE 7 (D,G,S) (J Henwood) R Buckler 10-10-0 | B Powell | 148 |
| 10 | 144-041 | HALE DERRING 22 (F,G,S) (Mrs V Stockdale) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-0 | C Maude | 139 |
| 11 | 110-310 | ELA AGAPI MOU 42 (F,G,S) (Achon III) G L Moore 5-10-0 | M Batchelor (7) | 135 |
| 12 | 300/611 | NATIVE FIELD 30 (D,F,S) (Ian Johnson) D Wintle 9-10-0 | R Bellamy | 133 |
| 13 | 6/311-3 | BEGGARS BANQUET 28 (D,F,S) (E Ruddock) P Bowen 5-10-0 | B Gratton (5) | 138 |
| 14 | 0/33-11 | UNSINKABLE BOXER 17 (S) (P Green) M Pipe 9-10-0 | T J Murphy | 129 |
| 15 | 3402-23 | NOBLE LORD 105 (F,G) (G Lansbury) R Phillips 5-10-0 | S McNeill | 137 |
| 16 | 4-62150 | CHABROL 7 (D,S) (Chabrol Partnership) John Berry 5-10-0 | L Aspell (3) | 148 |
| 17 | 62114-P | ARDRINA 21 (BF,D,G,S) (L G M Racing) F Murphy 7-10-0 | Michael Brennan (3) | 137 |
| 18 | 412-061 | CLAIRESWAN 30 (F,G,S) (Mrs B Lockey) M Tompkins 6-10-0 | M Richards | 132 |
| 19 | 1/5451- | WARNER FOR PLAYERS 339 (S) (T Warner) P Hobbs 7-10-0 | J R Kavanagh | 128 |
| 20 | 145111/ | MARINE SOCIETY 610 (F,S) (Bicester Tool Ltd) [illegible] 5-10-0 | G Sheridan (7) | – |
| 21 | 2/0/21- | BEN CRUACHAN 406 (G,S) (Caledonian Chasers) J Johnson 5-10-0 | B Harding | 129 |
| 22 | 2-P1211 | ARCTIC TRIUMPH 31 (F,G) (J Holman) M Bradstock 7-10-0 | Katharine Hambridge (7) | 133 |
| 23 | 1015FF- | FOLLY ROAD 290 (BF,D,S) (K McAuliffe) F McAuliffe 8-10-0 | Mr R Wakley (5) | 126 |
| 24 | 1012-26 | PLEASURELAND 63 (D,F,G) (Mrs S McGarvie) R Curtis 5-10-0 | J Leech | 128 |
| 25 | /0/13-3 | WINN'S PRIDE 29 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs W Easley) R Hollinshead 7-10-0 | S Wynne | 124 |
| 26 | 24/030- | GIVE BEST 312 (S) (J McMahon) J J O'Neill 7-10-0 | L Cooper (7) | 117 |

Long handicap: Hale Derring 9-12, Ela Agapi Mou 9-10, Native Field 9-7, Beggars Banquet 9-7, Unsinkable Boxer 9-2, Noble Lord 9-0, Chabrol 8-13, Ardrina 9-13, Claireswan 8-12, Warner For Players 8-11, Marine Society 8-10, Ben Cruachan 8-10, Arctic Triumph 8-8, Folly Road 8-8, Pleasureland 8-7, Winn's Pride 8-6, Give Best 8-6.

BETTING: 7-2 Princeful, 4-1 Lord Jim, 8-1 Hale Derring, 10-1 Splendid Thyne, 12-1 Couchant, Spendid, Beggars Banquet, Unsinkable Boxer, 14-1 others.

FORM FOCUS Sohrab 6l 4th of 17 to Kadou in hurdle grade I at Cheltenham (3m, good). Princeful beat Mesmoch 3l in 6-runner handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good to soft), previously 8¼l 4th of 21 to Major Jamie in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m, good) with Ela Agapi Mou (9lb better off) 35l 14th. Lord Jim beat Easy Feelin neck in 6-runner hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, soft). Splendid Thyne beat Campaign 5l in 9-runner handicap hurdle at Haydock (2m 7f, good to soft). Couchant 5l 3rd of 12 to Friendship in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 6f, good to soft). Hale Derring beat Toby Brown 5l in 6-runner handicap hurdle at Kempton (3m, soft). Native Field beat Ever Smile 3l in 12-runner claiming hurdle at Towcester (2m 5f, soft). Beggars Banquet 4¾l 2nd of 6 to Red Blazer in handicap hurdle at Uttoxeter (2m 4f, good to soft) with Spendid (11lb better off) 38l last. Unsinkable Boxer beat Mr Chataway 4l in 15-runner novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f, soft). Ardrina pulled up last time, previously 20l 4th of 8 to Istabraq in novice hurdle grade I at Punchestown (2m 4f, good). Claireswan beat Cash Box 4l in 11-runner handicap hurdle at Catterick (3m 1f, good). Arctic Triumph beat Chris's Lad 3l in 8-runner novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 2f, good).

LORD JIM is taken to extend his winning run in an exceptionally tricky race

## GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

### 3.40 EDWARD COURAGE CUP
(Handicap chase. £7,510: 2m 4f 110yd) (9 runners) C4

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 0211-4P | TERAO 63 (D,F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 12-11-11 | C Maude | 160 |
| 2 | 03-P002 | KADI 21 (D,G,S) (J Brown) D Nicholson 9-11-8 | 2nd preference | 147 |
| 3 | 131FF/6 | JIBBER THE KIBBER 21 (CD,S) (J Hitchins) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-4 | D Leahy | – |
| 4 | 650-121 | DR LEUNT 21 (G,S) (P Emery) P Hobbs 7-10-12 | 2nd preference | 145 |
| 5 | 123116- | LANCE ARMSTRONG 277 (D,G,S) (G Porter) G McCourt 8-10-10 | W Marston | 137 |
| 6 | 023-1UU | WITH IMPUNITY 21 (D,G,S) (G Bizell) P Nicholls 9-10-7 | T J Murphy | 154 |
| 7 | FP3/341 | CLARE MAN 16 (D,F,G,S) (M Warang) N Twiston-Davies 10-10-1 | T Jenks | 143 |
| 8 | 4442-45 | ALLO GEORGE 203 (G,S) (Lars Medical Systems) A Newcombe 12-10-0 | P Holley | 128 |
| 9 | U1-1112 | MANOR MIEO 21 (V,BF,D,G,S) G Prodromou 12-10-0 | Michael Brennan (3) | 137 |

Long handicap: Allo George 9-12, Manor Mieo 9-9.

BETTING: 2-1 With Impunity, 7-2 Jibber The Kibber, 4-1 Terao, 5-1 Clare Man, 8-1 Manor Mieo, 10-1 Lance Armstrong, 12-1 Allo George

FORM FOCUS Terao pulled up in handicap chase grade 3 at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, good); previously a distance 4th of 5 to Gales Cavalier in handicap chase grade II at Wincanton (2m 5f, good). Kadi ½l 2nd of 5 to Edredon Bleu in handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, soft), previously beaten a distance last of 9 to Senor El Betrutti in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good). Dr Leunt beat Landed Gentry 13l in 5-runner novice chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). Lance Armstrong 28l 6th of 9 to Sir Dante in novice handicap hurdle grade III at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good to firm). With Impunity unseated rider in handicap chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, heavy). Clare Man beat Catty Hang 3l in 9-runner handicap chase at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft); previously a distance last of 4 to Sister Rosza in handicap chase at Bangor (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Allo George 59l 5th of 8 to Gems Lad in handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7f 110yd, good). Manor Mieo 2l 2nd of 8 to Shining Light in handicap chase at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) with Jibber The Kibber (5lb better off) 18l 6th.

WITH IMPUNITY has solid claims although his jumping problems diminish confidence

### 4.10 LEASOWES MAIDEN HURDLE
(£3,353: 2m 4f 110yd) (24 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 6 | ANNMARBIAN 32 (C G H Syndicate) T Casey 6-11-7 | W Marston | – |
| 2 | | BENNA BEOLA (Mrs E Ellis) J Upson 6-11-7 | P Henley (3) | – |
| 3 | 0323-66 | BOLD LEAP 5 (Two Generations Partnership) P R Webber 6-11-7 | Mr A Sansome | 104 |
| 4 | 2-02 | GOOD LORD MURPHY 47 (Country Side) P Hobbs 6-11-7 | G Tormey | 90 |
| 5 | PPP/15/ | KENALAN LAD 643P (S) (Old Crown Pins) Mrs V Ward 8-11-7 | Michael Brennan (3) | – |
| 6 | U | LITERARY SPARK 45 (F Jackson) F Jackson 10-11-7 | Mr N Kent | – |
| 7 | 00 | MARKET SPRINGER 30 (G Pyatt) J L Harris 7-11-7 | J R Kavanagh | – |
| 8 | 41-5P | MAZILEO 22 (F) (Mrs H Parrott) I Williams 5-11-7 | E Husband (3) | – |
| 9 | 60-P | MONSIEUR PINK 165 (S Trickham) A Streeter 6-11-7 | T Bley | – |
| 10 | 00-0 | NORMANDY DUKE 22 (Mrs I Coles) C Mann 6-11-7 | J Magee (3) | – |
| 11 | | NOT REALLY (Lady Eliza Mays-Smith) Lady E Mays-Smith 7-11-7 | Mr R Wakley (5) | – |
| 12 | 2450-53 | SHARIAKANNDI 21 (G Gough) J King 6-11-7 | D J Kavanagh (5) | 117 |
| 13 | 3F22-00 | SKIMABIT 16 (O Easbury) C Brooks 7-11-7 | S McNeill | 95 |
| 14 | 0/00-0 | SONRISA 91 (R Owen) P Bowen 6-11-7 | L Cummins (5) | – |
| 15 | 4/2-342 | SURSUM CORDA 18 (M Rice-Thomas) T Forster 7-11-7 | R Thornton | 115 |
| 16 | 0- | SWEET PERRY 336 (Mondin Club Partnership) I Williams 7-11-7 | B Powell | – |
| 17 | 66-45 | WISLEY WARRIOR 22 (Wisley Golf Partnership) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-7 | C Maude | 112 |
| 18 | | GOLDEN MILLENIUM (Gaptoll Racing Club) R Lee 6-11-2 | G Hogan (3) | – |
| 19 | 421-443 | KINNAHALLA 22 (G,S) (P Spencer) G Balding 6-11-2 | S Fox | 103 |
| 20 | 0- | PRIDE OF PENNKER 243 (C Caple) A Newcombe 5-11-2 | P Holley | – |
| 21 | 0P- | THUNDERBIRD 253 (Thunderbird Partnership) A H Harvey 6-11-2 | M Richards | – |
| 22 | 6 | VALLIS VALE 26 (S Andrews) J King 6-11-2 | T Jenks | – |
| 23 | | ABOO HOM 94F (Kassmat Plc) M Pipe 4-10-8 | Mr G Elliott (5) | – |
| 24 | 35622 | RAINBOW STAR 16 (A White) M Pipe 4-10-8 | G Supple (5) | – |

BETTING: 7-2 Rainbow Star, 5-1 Sursum Corda, 7-1 Shariakanndi, 8-1 Good Lord Murphy, 10-1 Wisley Warrior, 12-1 Not Really, Kinnahalla, 14-1 others.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

| TRAINERS | Wnrs | Rnrs | % | JOCKEYS | Winners | Rides | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S Brookshaw | 3 | 10 | 30.0 | R Dunwoody | 21 | 53 | 39.6 |
| T Casey | 3 | 10 | 30.0 | T J Murphy | 3 | 15 | 20.0 |
| P Bowen | 4 | 15 | 26.7 | J R Kavanagh | 9 | 53 | 17.0 |
| C Mann | 4 | 15 | 26.7 | G Tormey | 3 | 20 | 15.0 |
| M Pipe | 26 | 103 | 25.2 | W Marston | 11 | 77 | 14.3 |
| Mrs J Pitman | 14 | 64 | 21.9 | X Aizpuru | 3 | 24 | 12.5 |

## ASCOT

THUNDERER

1.15 Ivor's Flutter
1.45 Oban
2.20 Arctic Kinsman
2.55 KURAKKA (nap)
3.25 Act Of Faith
3.55 Bellator

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.20 OR ROYAL.

GOING: SOFT (HEAVY IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

### 1.15 VICTOR CHANDLER NOVICES HURDLE
(£3,778: 2m 4f) (15 runners) BBC1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 101 | 1311 | FARFADET V 39 (D,G,S) (C, B & R Batterham II) M Pipe 5-11-8 | J Lower | 117 |
| 102 | 0/2/123 | IVOR'S FLUTTER 22 (BF,G) (W Perry) D Elsworth 9-11-8 | G Bradley | 122 |
| 103 | 33-12 | NO GIMMICKS 42 (S) (J Smith's Ltd) J FitzGerald 6-11-4 | L Wyer | 116 |
| 104 | 4-1 | ROYAL TOAST 28 (S) (Mrs C Edwards) N Henderson 6-11-4 | M A Fitzgerald | 110 |
| 105 | 3-0U | BRUSH WITH FAME 21 (J & B Gibbs & Sons Ltd) P Hobbs 6-11-0 | G Tormey | – |
| 106 | 06 | BUCK BOARD 62 (R Brazington) R Brazington 6-11-0 | R Massey (3) | – |
| 107 | 12/3-2 | EVER BLESSED 21 (S) (Ever Blessed Pins) Mrs J Pitman 6-11-0 | A P McCoy | 130 |
| 108 | 00-5 | ICKFORD OKEY 57 (P Morgan) C Morlock 6-11-0 | C Llewellyn | 80 |
| 109 | 22-0P4 | MARBLE CITY 30 (M Deamark) M Pitman 5-11-0 | R Dunwoody | 107 |
| 110 | 2 | PC'S CRUISER 107 (Mrs M Turner) D Turner 6-11-0 | A Thornton | – |
| 111 | | POWER DON 519F (F Colon) F Colon 5-11-0 | Mr N Kent | – |
| 112 | 403 | PROCEED 17 (G Radmore) J Gifford 6-11-0 | P Hide | 93 |
| 113 | U-00 | TIRLEY GALE 43 (D Smith) J Smith 6-11-0 | L Cummins (5) | 94 |
| 114 | 404P-00 | TUDOR TOWN 32 (P Purdy) P Purdy 10-11-0 | S Burrough | 80 |
| 115 | 04 | SHEILAS DREAM 19 (G Searle) H Howe 5-10-9 | G Sheldon (7) | 68 |

BETTING: 3-1 Ever Blessed, 7-2 Royal Toast, 4-1 Ivor's Flutter, 9-2 Farfadet V, 8-1 No Gimmicks, 10-1 Marble City, Proceed, 25-1 others.

1997: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

FORM FOCUS Farfadet V beat Be My Mot 15l in 7-runner novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 4f, soft). Ivor's Flutter 7½l 3rd of 10 to Buckhouse Boy in handicap hurdle at Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft). No Gimmicks 2l 2nd of 9 to Ardronan in novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m 7f, good). Royal Toast beat Ardley Royal 1¼l in 11-runner novice hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, good to soft). Buck Board beaten a distance 6th of 8 to Tidal Force in novice hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 5f, good). Ever Blessed neck 2nd of 10 to Champleve in novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) with Brush With Fame (levels) unseated rider. Ickford Okey beaten a distance 5th of 8 to Brackenheath in novice hurdle at Ascot (3m, soft). Marble City 4¾l 4th of 16 to Bracey Run in novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, soft). Pc's Cruiser beaten a distance 2nd of 4 to Dolce Notte in maiden hurdle at Taunton (2m 3f 110yd, firm). Proceed 12l 3rd of 15 to Unsinkable Boxer in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f 110yd, soft). Tirley Gale 38l 7th of 16 to Kadou Nonantais in national hunt flat race at Hereford (2m 1f, good). Tudor Town beaten a distance 7th of 10 to Studio Thirty in novice handicap hurdle at Hereford (2m 3f 110yd, good). Sheilas Dream 30l 4th of 13 to Effectual in novice hurdle at Taunton (2m 1f, good).

EVER BLESSED showed useful form at Chepstow and should improve again

### 1.45 MAR LODGE HANDICAP CHASE
(£8,247: 2m 3f 110yd) (6 runners) BBC1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 201 | 2-3113U | SUPER TACTICS 21 (BF,D,F,G,S) (H Perry) R Alner 10-11-10 | A Thornton | 154 |
| 202 | 131P0-P | GOLDEN SPINNER 91 (G,S) (P Miller) N Henderson 11-11-2 | M A Fitzgerald | 143 |
| 203 | 0211-4P | TERAO 63 (F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 12-10-13 | 2nd preference | 146 |
| 204 | 03-P002 | KADI 21 (G,S) (J Brown) D Nicholson 9-10-10 | R Johnson | 158 |
| 205 | 41/112- | OBAN 330 (D,G,S) (Lord Harrington) Miss H Knight 8-10-6 | G Bradley | 168 |
| 206 | 12023-3 | SUPER COIN 217 (F,S) (G Brookes) R Lee 10-10-0 | N Williamson | 155 |

Long handicap: Super Coin 9-3.

BETTING: 7-4 Kadi, 2-1 Super Tactics, 5-1 Oban, 6-1 Golden Spinner, 13-2 Super Coin.

FORM FOCUS Golden Spinner pulled up in handicap chase at Kempton (3m, good). Terao pulled up in grade II handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 4f 110yd, good). Kadi ½l 2nd of 5 to Edredon Bleu in handicap chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, soft) with Super Tactics (2lb worse off) unseated rider. Oban 7l 2nd of 6 to Berude Not To in novice chase at Kempton (3m, good to soft). Super Coin 18l 3rd of 8 to Stately Home in handicap chase at Market Rasen (2m 4f, good to firm).

A difficult race for which KADI is a tentative selection

### 2.20 VICTOR CHANDLER HANDICAP CHASE
(Grade II: £25,945: 2m) (9 runners) BBC1

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 301 | 11FF-2F | MULLIGAN 42 (D,F,G,S) (Lady Harris) D Nicholson 8-11-10 | R Johnson | 165 |
| 302 | 1213-33 | OR ROYAL 42 (B,D,F,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 7-11-8 | A P McCoy | 189 |
| 303 | 2-15451 | CELIBATE 28 (CD,F,S) (Stanford Bridge Pins) C Mann 7-10-13 (4ex) | M Fitzgerald | 165 |
| 304 | 6121-P2 | JEFFELL 41 (D,G,S) (T Bailey) A L Moore (Ire) 8-10-11 | C O'Dwyer | – |
| 305 | /33-214 | LEOTARD 28 (CD,F,S) (P Hatley) Miss V Williams 11-10-8 | N Williamson | 170 |
| 306 | U2F6-23 | ARCTIC KINSMAN 35 (D,F,S) (R Hankey) N T-Davies 10-10-9 | C Llewellyn | 180 |
| 307 | 2624-22 | LORD DORCET 21 (CD,F,G,S) (J Hogg) J Charlton 8-10-7 | R Dunwoody | 179 |
| 308 | 4-61111 | CUMBRIAN CHALLENGE 22 (CD,F,S) (Cumbrian Ind) T Easterby 9-10-7 (4ex) | L Wyer | 174 |
| 309 | 23-313U | NATIVE MISSION 21 (D,G,S) (G Shouler) J FitzGerald 11-10-6 | A Thornton | 169 |

BETTING: 4-1 Celibate, 9-2 Or Royal, 5-1 Lord Dorcet, 6-1 Jeffell, Mulligan, Arctic Kinsman, 8-1 Cumbrian Challenge, Leotard, 14-1 Native Mission.

1997: ASK TOM 8-10-10 R Garritty (9-4 fav) T Tate 8 ran

FORM FOCUS Or Royal 5¼l 3rd of 7 to Ask Tom in chase grade 1 at Sandown (2m, good to soft) with Celibate (9lb better off) 20l 5th and Mulligan (2lb worse off) fell. Celibate beat Lord Dorcet (4lb better off) 6l in 7-runner handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good to soft) with Leotard (4lb better off) 7½l 4th. Jeffell 11l 2nd of 5 to Dorans Pride in chase grade 1 at Fairyhouse (2m 4f, good), previously handicap chase grade 2 at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft). Arctic Kinsman 4¼l 3rd of 4 to Kibreet in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 110yd, good); previously 6l 2nd of 6 to Leotard (7lb worse off) in handicap chase at Ascot (2m, soft). Lord Dorcet 1¼l 2nd of 4 to Viking Flagship in chase grade 2 at Wetherby (2m, good to soft) with Native Mission (1lb better off) unseated rider. Cumbrian Challenge beat Brambleberry 5l in 6-runner handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, soft), previously beat Beachy Head 1l in 9-runner handicap chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, good).

JEFFELL was a good novice in Ireland last year and is peaking at the right time

### 2.55 DURHAM RANGER NOVICES HURDLE
(£3,729: 2m 110yd) (12 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 401 | 14/20-3 | BALLAD MINSTREL 35 (D,S) (G Shouler) J FitzGerald 6-11-6 | L Wyer | 116 |
| 402 | 1-163 | GATFLAX 18 (D,G) (G Clarke) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-6 | C Llewellyn | 90+ |
| 403 | 210/PP- | GENTLE TUNE 339 (D,S) (H Jarvis) J R Best 8-11-6 | J Culloty | – |
| 404 | 2 | KURAKKA 56 (Mrs M Sweeney) J Gifford 5-11-6 | P Hide | 119 |
| 405 | 31/6-0 | LASTO ADREE 52 (D,F) (Miss J Newell) G Thorner 7-11-6 | A Thornton | 95 |
| 406 | 5 | PERFECT VENUE 28 (Marlin Partnership) N Henderson 5-11-6 | M A Fitzgerald | 122 |
| 407 | 5 | ROYAL SHREWSBURY 70 (L Jones) Mrs M Jones 8-11-6 | D Byrne | – |
| 408 | 0066 | SAFE TO ASSUME 18 (R Brazington) R Brazington 7-11-6 | R Massey (3) | – |
| 409 | 13-20 | SIMONS CASTLE 43 (D,S) (Mrs B Marchant) R O'Sullivan 5-11-6 | N Williamson | 80 |
| 410 | 2- | SYDNEY TWOTHOUSAND 358 (M Watt) Miss H Knight 8-11-6 | G Bradley | – |
| 411 | 0P- | TARAKHEL 458 (Mrs G Lust) N Smith 5-11-6 | M Sharratt | – |
| 412 | | TAUFAN BOY 92F (Supreme Team) G Balding 5-11-6 | B Fenton | – |

BETTING: 3-1 Kurakka, 7-2 Sydney Twothousand, 4-1 Ballad Minstrel, 7-1 Gatflax, 8-1 Perfect Venue, Simons Castle, 16-1 Royal Shrewsbury, Taufan Boy, 25-1 others.

### 3.25 PETER ROSS NOVICES CHASE
(£8,286: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 501 | 11-5U41 | WAYWARD KING 22 (D,G,S) (Fieldspring Racing) R Hodges 6-12-0 | T Dascombe | 109 |
| 502 | 650-121 | DR LEUNT 21 (G,S) (P Emery) P Hobbs 7-11-11 | R Dunwoody | 116 |
| 503 | P533-21 | HOODED HAWK 29 (D,G) (C Hamer) N Henderson 7-11-11 | M A Fitzgerald | 118 |
| 504 | 631/4-3 | ACT OF FAITH 59 (D,S) (Mrs R Baker) N Gaselee 8-11-7 | C Llewellyn | 112 |
| 505 | 50- | BLAZING BATMAN 297 (W Henderson) Mrs R Henderson 5-10-9 | D Salter | – |

BETTING: 6-4 Dr Leunt, 2-1 Wayward King, 4-1 Hooded Hawk, 5-1 Act Of Faith, 50-1 Blazing Batman.

### 3.55 TEAL AND GREEN HANDICAP HURDLE
(£10,475: 2m 110yd) (14 runners)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 601 | 4-40024 | BLOWING WIND 28 (G) (P Deal) M Pipe 5-12-0 | Mr A Farrant | – |
| 602 | 34141-2 | CADOUGOLD 62 (D,F,G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 7-12-0 | A P McCoy | 159 |
| 603 | 203-250 | MISTINGUETT 35 (CD,F,G,S) (J Duggan) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-12 | C Llewellyn | 158 |
| 604 | 3/112-1 | RED BLAZER 28 (D,S) (Miss H Knight) Miss H Knight 7-11-12 | J Culloty | 140 |
| 605 | 36414-2 | BARNA BOY 36 (C,D,G,S) (L Wilson) N Henderson 10-11-9 | M A Fitzgerald | 149 |
| 606 | 14F-5 | L'OPERA 28 (D,S) (Sheikh A al-Maktoum) D Nicholson 5-11-4 | R Johnson | 135 |
| 607 | /105/2- | WARM SPELL 168F (BF,D,G) (R Higson) G L Moore 8-11-4 | R Dunwoody | – |
| 608 | 11-0 | BELLATOR 42 (D,G) (P Richardson) G Balding 5-11-0 | B Fenton | 140 |
| 609 | 4-22511 | NEW INN 22 (D,F,G,S) (I Stewart) S Gollings 7-10-11 | Mr S Durack (5) | 145 |
| 610 | 1114/2- | BLESS ME SISTER 440 (BF,D,F,S) (A Palmer) R Rowe 9-10-4 | A Garrity (7) | – |
| 611 | 1B3/ | RUBHAHUNISH 649 (D,G) (Lone Star Pns) J Bennett 7-10-4 | L Harvey | – |
| 612 | 3141-22 | RIPARIUS 35 (D,F,G) (Mrs D Blackburn) P R Webber 7-10-0 | N Williamson | 150 |
| 613 | F6-R332 | HARBET HOUSE 17 (B,D,S) (C Washbourn) R O'Sullivan 5-10-0 | N Willmington (7) | 133 |
| 614 | /6132-1 | NIPPER REED 28 (D,G,S) (G Piper) R Simpson 8-10-0 | X Aizpuru (5) | 144 |

Long handicap: Riparius 9-13, Harbet House 9-10, Nipper Reed 9-8.

BETTING: 9-2 Barna Boy, 5-1 Red Blazer, 6-1 Bellator, 7-1 Cadougold, 10-1 L'Opera, Warm Spell, Riparius, 12-1 others

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

| TRAINERS | Wnrs | Rnrs | % | JOCKEYS | Winners | Rides | % |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T Easterby | 3 | 6 | 50.0 | L Wyer | 3 | 10 | 30.0 |
| G L Moore | 3 | 9 | 33.3 | A Thornton | 5 | 17 | 29.4 |
| Miss V Williams | 3 | 9 | 33.3 | A P McCoy | 24 | 87 | 27.6 |
| M Pipe | 13 | 53 | 24.5 | R Johnson | 7 | 27 | 25.9 |
| R Alner | 7 | 30 | 23.3 | R Dunwoody | 22 | 108 | 20.4 |
| D Nicholson | 15 | 65 | 23.1 | N Williamson | 8 | 47 | 17.0 |


Pick up a* FREE £10 BET

FOR FIRST TIME TELEPHONE CALLERS staking £25 or more using Switch, Delta or Solo bank or building society debit cards.

RING TODAY BET TODAY 0800 44 40 40

(Minimum total investment per call £10. Over 18's only)

*Free bet is a £10 Straight Forecast on the Ascot 2.20pm today. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.)

William HILL

VICTOR CHANDLER CHASE

2 miles (Handicap). Ascot 2.20pm. Live on BBC TV.

9/2 Celibate
9/2 Or Royal
5/1 Lord Dorcet
11/2 Jeffell
6/1 Arctic Kinsman
6/1 Mulligan
7/1 Cumbrian Challenge
10/1 Leotard
20/1 Native Mission

Each way One Fifth the odds a place 1,2,3. Prices subject to fluctuation. Available up to 2.05pm Tattersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner – no bet.

LATEST ODDS ON William Hill TV TEXT - Teletext on CH4 P601/602/603

TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE 0800 289 892. WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY. PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION

RAPID RACELINE

0930 168+ COMMENTARY RESULTS

ASCOT 101 201
WARWICK 102 202
NEWCASTLE 103 203
LINGFIELD 104 204
IRISH 161 261

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168


هكذا من الأهل

هكذا من الأصل



## Colourful survivor content to put setbacks behind him and make most of eighth training opportunity

# Nomad at home in restless world




The first thing to do is to get the hat right. This is a rule of life that counts double in racing. What hat do you wear out on the training ground? The traditionalist wears a flat cap, preferably one from the shop in Jermyn Street in which the stuffed cat smokes a cigar.

The Young Turk wears no hat at all, which is a tough call on cold days. The out-and-out anti-traditionalist wears a baseball cap, the peak squeezed into a downward curve. All this is a good and helpful system. It means that an owner or any other kind of stable visitor knows exactly where he stands once he has seen the hat.

So we stepped out onto the lovely training grounds in the Chilterns, and Rod Simpson stretched out a hand to pick up a beret. In a nice shade of Eau de Nile. Crammed it brusquely over his head. "Right," he said, "let's go and see these awces."

The awces were out in the main yard, tacked up. Simpson busied about, legging up lads, rather a lot of them female, talking, always talking. Horses milled and clattered about. He approached a nice-looking animal. "Nice-looking animal," I said.

"That's you he's talking abaht," Simpson said to the lad, a female one, as it happened, as he legged her into the saddle. "Not the bleedin' awce." This was not the only crack of that type that Simpson made that morning, though it was probably the best.

We walked to a large and precipitous field on the side of the Chilterns. "Nomadic," Simpson said, savouring the word. "That's what one of the papers said I am. No-madic." Well, I asked. How many yards have you worked in? As the boss, as a public trainer of racehorses?

There is no snappy answer to this one. Simpson had to work it out. Probably eight. Yes, eight. Definitely eight, counting this one, and he's halfway through a year's contract. "And then I'll be asked to stay on, or I'll be out on me ear." And looking for yard number nine.

The Simpson myth is that he keeps giving up racing, and then keeps giving it one last chance. It is a good story, but not, alas, a true one. "I've never been out of racing. Not for a minute. I take contracts to train, and when I have finished the contract, I move on."

The restlessness, the lack of permanence suits his nature. You do not choose such a life if you have a love of security. "I'll never train self-employed again, that's for sure. When you've lost a million quid, you have a different attitude."

In the Eighties, Simpson set up his own yard in Lambourn and his No 1 owner was Terry Ramsden. Ramsden was the ultimate Eighties man, a financial high-flyer with cockney vowels and layered hair. Like the Eighties themselves, Ramsden did not train on. He vanished in a puff of financial smoke. A trainer who loses, at a stroke, 42 horses when an owner finds financial disaster is in a fair amount of disaster himself.

But Simpson is a bouncer-backer by nature. Hence the contracts, hence the nomad's life. He is also a start-up man by nature, always at his best in emergencies. His life as a kind of Red Adair of racing is not for most, but it certainly suits Simpson.

He was brought to a deeply troubled yard near Wendover — "bad name, bad vibes" — and has relaid the gallops, supervised the building of new facilities, including a 44-box barn, and, as a bonus, he has been training winners as well. "I've had ten winners from 12 horses, and I've got 22 more that will be racing on the Flat."

Simpson, you see, not only gets things done. He can train racehorses as well. That is true of some quiet men and it is true of Simpson, who loves to put on a show. As the horses walked their fine stretchy walks in a circle around us, Simpson seemed as much a ringmaster as a trainer. A lot of loud and bad jokes, the lads giving as good as they got. "A good yard is about a good atmosphere," he said. "I love my staff. People are queueing up to work for me."

You do not tease the guv'nor if you are working at the patrician end of Newmarket, but Simpson has no pretensions to social greatness. Racing is not a democratic industry, but it is possible to rise from the ranks. Simpson was a Croydon boy, mad on horses, who went into racing as a snotty little apprentice.

He is a man around whom complications gather, so I will not attempt to list all the interim steps between then and now. His is not a simple life; but it has been filled with horses and stable yards and inevitable disappointments and glorious winners.

The canters were finished and the horses filed back to the yard, all bar the two or three that were to be schooled over fences. Aaron Bates, a conditional jockey, was there to do the bulk of the business. "If you make the bastard jump, you've got the ride," Simpson said, not, I think, for the first time.



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

Simpson, complete with early-morning beret, supervises work at Wendover, from where winners are flowing with increasing regularity

> The myth is that he keeps on giving up racing, and then he keeps giving it one last chance

The horse was called Belzao. "If he jumps well, make a fuss and go home." This was the first time he had been jumped. Bates put him at two small fences of tyres, following a lead-horse; the presence of a good example up ahead makes it all ten times easier for everyone involved, especially the horse. Belzao popped them both, rounding over them like a veteran.

It was small, simple, and rather startling. "Nice shape," Bates said, and rightly. So next, Belzao followed his leader over three flights of hurdles. He did not lay a hoof on a single one. It was simple; it was magic. Simpson uttered an obscenity. It is possible to do so with reverence, with awe, cockney vowels and all. There was a hint of prayer in the two rude words: of thanksgiving and of hope. All racing, all horsey life was contained in those three syllables of unprintable, indeed, inexpressible wonder.

We walked back to the house, the big kitchen filled with gossiping, joshing lads, Simpson now talking of a book of children's stories he had been commissioned to write, of his "corporate work", hosting junketers at big race meetings.

He is not, after all, a man who keeps giving up and then giving the horses one last chance. He has never given up: addicts don't. Racing and horses are as much a part of his life now, at 52, as they were when he was the aforementioned snotty-nosed apprentice, the former big-shot trainer with a million quids worth of assets.

Simpson is a singular man in racing terms, a singular man in a singular hat. But the game, the horsey life, is as much a part of him as it is with any of the flat-capped fogeys and the hatless Young Turks. He gave me a cert for Friday, and a good thing for today. Nipper Reed. Lovely awce.

# Tom Tailor looks made to measure

**ASCOT**

**BBC1**

1.15: Tony McCoy appears to have deserted Farfadet V, and it may be significant that he rode Champleve, a stablemate, when just holding off **Ever Blessed** at Chepstow. His mount today, doubtless all the better for that outing, proved himself well suited by the mud there; by contrast, Farfadet V is a rather slender creature, unlikely to relish a slog through the mud. Royal Toast, one of five original entries from the Henderson yard, must rank as a danger.

1.45: Oban, a promising novice last winter, would be entitled to need this, but nonetheless looks the most plausible threat to **Super Tactics**. A creditable third over two miles here last month, Super Tactics was still travelling well over today's trip at Kempton last time when falling three out. Trainer and jockey remain in the best of form, and the horse has for some reason been dropped 4lb. Kadi almost caught Edredon Bleu when that tiring horse was left on his own that day, but was probably flattered. Terao has shown little this term, but could bounce back.

2.20: see facing page.

**WARWICK**

**CHANNEL 4**

2.05: Bakkar — with a similar background to Zafarabad, so impressive at Kempton yesterday — has schooled well and is expected to enjoy the soft ground. But he lacks the hurdling experience of **Tom Tailor**, who has taken to timber as naturally as one might expect of a half-brother to Muse. He had his tongue tied down when making all in similar conditions at Exeter on New Year's Day, having raced too freely at Ascot previously.

TODAY'S RACING ON TELEVISION

2.35: They should finish well strung out here, with the fairly treated Miss Diskin sure to go close. She shaped well given an inadequate test of stamina at Lingfield last time, and adores the mud. But Venetia Williams' **Martell Boy** is extremely lightly raced, with just seven races in four seasons, and could prove better than the handicapper has allowed in raising him 9lb for an easy win at Worcester last summer. Fitness would ordinarily be a concern, but not with his trainer. Parsons Boy would be of interest if coming from a yard in similar form, but Sister Stephanie, Danger Baby and Grange Brake are unreliable, while Jet Rules lacks chasing experience and Hatcham Boy must also improve his jumping.

3.10: Some of these will doubtless peak only in time for the final of this series at the Cheltenham Festival. Lord Jim put up one of the best novice performances of the season at Sandown last week, but — tough though he is — this may come too soon. Splendid Thyne, a chaser in the making, has been winning in lesser grade. **Beggars Banquet** may also come into his own over fences, but this excellent prospect may come on for a promising reappearance sufficiently to go close, even from 11lb out of the handicap.

3.40: **With Impunity** could be an improved horse this season. He was still upsides the useful Sparkling Cone when falling four out at Chepstow, and, given a clear round today, looks sufficiently well treated to resume winning ways. Jibber The Kibber shaped nicely on his return, but needs to improve his jumping. Allo George may need the run, Clare Man stays further and may get outpaced, while Manor Mieo faces the stiffest task of a good season from out of the handicap.

CHRIS McGRATH

**RACING NEXT WEEK**

MONDAY: Fontwell Park (first race, 1.15), Southwell (AW, 1.30).
TUESDAY: Carlisle (1.00), Lingfield Park (AW, 1.15).
WEDNESDAY: Huntingdon (1.30), Windsor (1.40), Wolverhampton (AW, 1.50)
THURSDAY: Ludlow (1.10), Taunton (1.20), Lingfield (AW, 1.30).
FRIDAY: Ascot (BBC, 1.00), Kelso (1.15), Southwell (AW, 1.40).
SATURDAY: Catterick (1.10), Haydock Park (BBC, 12.45), Kempton Park (C4, 1.00), Lingfield Park (1.25), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00).
*Flat meetings in bold*

# Titans due to clash at Larkhill

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

SOME giants of the sport are set to clash at today's Army meeting at Larkhill. The ground could tremble if Fantus, Proud Sun and Holland House line up for the men's open, and it won't only be in reverence for some heavyweight reputations. All three are physically big too, and represent a real challenge to their trainers.

Fantus, a dual winner of the Foxhunters' Chase, will be ridden by Tim Mitchell, while Michael Portman will partner Holland House because his regular rider, Charlie Vigors, has been barred from riding in points by his new governor, Sir Mark Prescott.

Proud Sun will have the assistance of Seamus Durack, the season's star amateur under Rules. Stewart Pike, his owner, said: "I wanted to get a rider who would be available for the horse throughout this season, and Seamus is one of the best. We had to sort out his rider's certificate yesterday, but it has all gone through smoothly." Durack was riding at Musselburgh yesterday, and Pike was hoping the jockey made the long journey south in time.

In the ladies' race Pike will run Front Cover, with Shirley Vickery in the saddle, but they will face an impossible task in tackling Earthmover, who was unbeaten in six races for Richard Barber last season. He is heading for the Foxhunters', but stablemate Fantus needs to win two open races or finish first or second in a hunter chase to qualify.

Pip Jones, who won on Gunner Boon in David Brace's colours at Cottenham on Sunday, hopes to follow up on the same owners' Blue Raven at the North Norfolk Harriers meeting. She also rides Hal's Prince for brother Tim in the intermediate.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Army at Larkhill, 4m NW of Amesbury (first race, 12.00); North Norfolk Harriers at Higham, 8m NE of Colchester (12.00). TOMORROW: Garth & South Berks at Tweseldown, 3m W of Aldershot (12.30)

## NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

12.50 Bamburgh Boy. 1.20 Linden's Lotto. 1.50 Ardrina. 2.25 Ledgendry Line. 3.00 Celestial Choir. 3.30 Sumthyne Special. 4.00 River Unshion.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT PATCHES) SIS

### 12.50 MBNA JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(4-Y-O: £2,369: 2m) (11 runners)

1 -51 BARNBURGH BOY 21 (D,S) T Easterby 11-5 R Garritty
2 1 ROBBO 15 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 11-5 P Niven
3 21 SWING WEST 28 (D,S) P Eccles 11-5 D Gallagher
4 468 HOH EXPLORER 37 D Barker 10-12 D Bentley
5 3 MR BOMBASTIQUE 19 Mrs J Brown 10-12 E Callaghan
6 PUPIL MASTER 297F B Mactaggart 10-12 G Lee
7 6 SELBERRY 14F P Haslam 10-12 M Foster
8 TREASURE HILL 198F B Mactaggart 10-12 B Storey
9 202 WARRLIN 29 C Fairhurst 10-12 J Callaghan
10 632 BOLLERO 14 J Berry 10-7 D Parker
11 THE IN-LAWS 91F D Sherwood 10-7 J A McCarthy

3-1 Bamburgh Boy, 7-2 Swing West, 6-1 Robbo, 7-1 The In-Laws, 8-1 Mr Bombastique, Warrlin, 10-1 Bollero, 12-1 others.

### 1.20 RAMSIDE EVENT CATERING HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,550: 3m 6f) (13)

1 /3-3 SILVER STICK 49 (V,CD,F,G,S) M W Easterby 11-12-0 P Niven
2 -211 LINDEN'S LOTTO 14 (F,G,S) G Richards 9-11-13 A Dobbin
3 3-41 JUDICIOUS CAPTAIN 22 (G,S) Mrs J Storey 11-11-2 Mr C Storey
4 P-53 NORTHERN SQUIRE 16 (G,S) J Jefferson 10-10-11 E Callaghan
5 0-46 FRONT LINE 28 (S) J J O'Neill 11-10-9 P Carberry
6 -P35 PINK GIN 49 (C,F,G,S) M Hammond 11-10-9 R Garritty
7 212P GEMS LAD 22 (BF,F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 11-10-6 R Guest
8 F5-0 PETER 22 (F) D Wintle 10-10-4 B Storey
9 2430 PIMS GUNNER 54 (F,G,S) M Hammond 10-10-0 D Gallagher
10 5-65 HEAVENLY CITIZEN 18 (F,S) J Gledson 10-10-0 C McCormack (5)
11 2R33 D'ARBLAY STREET 14 (B,G,S) W Kemp 9-10-0 F Leahy (3)
12 -UP4 ANOTHER VENTURE 22 (B,S) F Murphy 8-10-0 R McGrath (3)
13 0-P1 MAJORITY MAJOR 37 (C,G,S) P Cheesbrough 9-10-0 A S Smith

5-2 Linden's Lotto, 9-2 Judicious Captain, 7-1 Silver Stick, Gems Lad, 8-1 Peter, D'Arblay Street, 12-1 Northern Squire, 14-1 others.

### 1.50 WADDINGTON JAYCARE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,857: 3m) (15)

1 30-6 DALLY BOY 21 (C,F,G) T Easterby 6-11-12 S Ryan (5)
2 14-P ARDRINA 21 (BF,G,S) F Murphy 7-11-10 M Foster
3 U233 UNLATHEN 15 (D,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-6 G Lee
4 1-25 LOUGH TULLY 42 (BF,D,S) F Jordan 8-11-5 D Gallagher
5 -031 DOUBLE AGENT 33 (C,G,S) J H Johnson 5-11-3 P Carberry
6 4563 HIT THE CANVAS 21 (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-2 P Niven
7 2-40 MR CHRISTIE 19 (BF,D,G,S) Miss L Siddall 6-10-13 T Reed
8 /1-4 SEOVECTA 15 (CD,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-13 Mr T Comerford (7)
9 14-3 INVEST WISELY 19 (F) M Hammond 5-10-10 R Garritty
10 3434 DOCKMASTER 21 (CD,G,S) Miss K Milligan 7-10-10 A Dobbin
11 -326 NEEDWOOD POPPY 21 (BF,G) B Morgan 10-10-1 B Clifford
12 1PP/ MANDIKA 1622P (D,G,S) S Frankish 10-10-0 L O'Hara
13 P240 SIGMA WIRELESS 21 (F,G) T Etherington 9-10-0 D Parker
14 UP-5 TWIN STATES 17 (D,F,G,S) J Turner 9-10-0 R Supple
15 340- MARLINGFORD 294 (F,S) Mrs J Jordan 11-10-0 S Taylor (5)

3-1 Double Agent, 5-1 Ardrina, 6-1 Lough Tully, 8-1 Unlathen, Invest Wisely, 10-1 Hit The Canvas, Dockmaster, 12-1 others.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRAINERS: S Kettlewell, 3 winners, from 10 runners, 30.0%; C Thornton, 3 from 10, 30.0%; J Jefferson, 9 from 34, 26.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 36 from 143, 25.2%; G Richards, 13 from 58, 22.4%.

JOCKEYS: P Niven, 39 winners from 116 rides, 33.6%; P Carberry, 7 from 31, 22.6%; R Garritty, 13 from 77, 16.9%; M Foster, 5 from 30, 16.7%; D Gallagher, 3 from 18, 16.7%; D Parker, 5 from 32, 15.6%.

### 2.25 HENNESSY COGNAC SPECIAL SERIES NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £6,356: 2m) (11) SKY

1 1 ALPINE PANTHER 33 (CD,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5 P Niven
2 4 BOLD GAIT 28 (BF) J Fanshawe 7-11-5 R Guest
3 01 CLASSIC EAGLE 17 (D,G) Mrs D Haine 5-11-5 A Dobbin
4 DISTINCT 967F A Whillans 5-11-5 A S Smith
5 053/ FALCON'S IMAGE 725 J Jefferson 7-11-5 E Callaghan
6 121 FLYING NORTH 54 (D,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5 G Lee
7 6000 INDIAN VICEROY 10 J Turner 5-11-5 R Supple
8 JACQUES THE LAD Mrs J Storey 6-11-5 Mr C Storey
9 21 LEDGENDRY LINE 47 (D,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-5 N Smith
10 U-02 NORTHERN MOTTO 19 (BF) J Goldie 5-11-5 R McGrath
11 00-5 QUEENS BRIGADE 18 F Watson 6-11-5 B Storey

9-1 Ledgendry Line, 7-2 Flying North, 4-1 Classic Eagle, 9-2 Alpine Panther, 5-1 Bold Gait, 12-1 Northern Motto, 25-1 Falcon's Image, 33-1 others.

### 3.00 DIPPER NOVICES CHASE (Grade II: £11,326: 2m 4f) (9) SKY

1 1131 GREEN GREEN DESERT 38 (F,G) O Sherwood 7-11-9 J A McCarthy
2 3211 JYMJAM JOHNNY 15 (V,D,S) J J O'Neill 9-11-5 P Niven
3 21P4 MASTER BAVARD 14 (F,G) P Monteith 10-11-5 A Dobbin
4 111U PENTLANDS FLYER 22 (D,F,G) J H Johnson 7-11-5 P Carberry
5 2312 RACHAEL'S OWEN 15 (D,F,G,S) J Goldie 8-11-5 R McGrath
6 -13F SOLSGIRTH 15 (D,G,S) J Barclay 7-11-5 R Supple
7 /0-P STINGING BEE 38 W Reed 7-11-5 T Reed
8 -952 TRUE SCOT 22 (G,S) P Cheesbrough 8-11-5 A S Smith
9 10-1 CELESTIAL CHOIR 18 (D,F,G,S) J Eyre 8-11-0 B Storey

5-2 Green Green Desert, 3-1 Pentlands Flyer, 7-2 Jymjam Johnny, Celestial Choir, 10-1 Rachael's Owen, 25-1 Master Bavard, Solsgirth, True Scot, 66-1 Stinging Bee.

### 3.30 SHOVELER STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,392: 2m) (25)

1 3 BRANCH END 30 J Charlton 6-11-4 D Thomas (7)
2 22 JOE BUZZ 19 F Murphy 6-11-4 E Callaghan
3 LUCKY MOVE S Kettlewell 5-11-4 D Gallagher
4 MR BUSBY Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 M Herrington (7)
5 PERKS OF THE JOB F Murtagh 6-11-4 A Dobbin
6 SHAY GAP Mrs J Storey 5-11-4 D Parker
7 0 SNUFF BOX 19 B Mactaggart 5-11-4 B Storey
8 STILL FRIENDS C Grant 5-11-4 R Garritty
9 2 SUMTHYNE SPECIAL 28 L Lungo 6-11-4 R Supple
10 02 TELL MONTY 28 Mrs J Brown 6-11-4 G Lee
11 63-3 WELLSWOOD 19 J Jefferson 5-11-4 M Mello (7)
12 43 WOODFIELD GALE 10 Mrs M Reveley 5-11-4 P Niven
13 CALL THE TUNE R McDonald 6-10-13 J Supple
14 DARK SALLY N Chamberlain 5-10-13 A S Smith
15 DIPADOR D Swindlehurst 6-10-13 Mr D Swindlehurst
16 HELM WIND M Barnes 5-10-13 S Taylor (5)
17 5 JUST HUSH 14 R Nixon 5-10-13 C McCormack (5)
18 LADY FOR PLEASURE W Cunningham 6-10-13 N Smith
19 LUCKY GANESHA Mrs S Smith 5-10-13 S Pontil (7)
20 PETITE BUSH B Ellison 5-10-13 R McGrath (3)
21 JACK FLASH S Kettlewell 4-10-6 Mr C Bonner (3)
22 NOSHINANNIKIN M W Easterby 4-10-6 Mr K R O'Ryan (7)
23 TOM'S MAN G White 4-10-6 S Melrose (7)
24 WRANGEL J Fitzgerald 4-10-6 P Carberry
25 MARTHA'S MOONSTONE T Easterby 4-10-1 J Callaghan

7-2 Joe Buzz, 4-1 Sumthyne Special, 7-1 Woodfield Gale, 8-1 Tell Monty, Wrangel, 10-1 Wellswood, 12-1 Mr Busby, Martha's Moonstone, 16-1 others

### 4.00 JAMES ROBSON CLARK MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£2,905: 2m 4f) (9) SKY

1 -F12 BLUE CHARM 19 (BF,D,F,G) Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-13 Mr M Bradburne (5)
2 32-F BRIGHTER SHADE 15 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-11 P Niven
3 1234 BALLYLINE 19 (G,S) W Kemp 7-11-1 A Dobbin
4 -2F2 RIVER UNSHION 30 (BF,D,F,S) J H Johnson 8-11-0 P Carberry
5 -333 BRIAR'S DELIGHT 38 (V,F,G,S) R Allan 10-10-11 R Garritty
6 P0-3 CITTADINO 22 (D,G,S) C Thornton 8-10-0 M Foster
7 4223 BLAZING DAWN 70 (C,D,F,S) J Hubbuck 11-10-0 B Storey
8 65-P POTATO MAN 22 (D,S) B Ellison 12-10-0 C McCormack (5)
9 F14P MIGHTY MERC 54 (F) Mrs B Bread 10-10-0 D Bentley

11-4 River Unshion, 9-2 Blue Charm, Brighter Shade, 6-1 Ballyline, 7-1 Briar's Delight, Cittadino, 10-1 Blazing Dawn, 20-1 others.

## LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.05 Laurel Seeker. 1.40 Roffey Spinney. 2.10 Missed The Cut. 2.45 Nisaba. 3.20 Paint It Black. 3.50 Salty Jack.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

### 1.05 STUBBS AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£2,295: 1m 4f) (17 runners)

1 4/0- NO PATTERN 52J (C,F) G L Moore 6-11-7 I Mongan (7) 10
2 00-0 ROYAL CEILIDH 9 (F,G) D Williams 5-11-2 Edgar Byrne (3) 9
3 50-1 BON GUEST 9 (C,G) Miss B Sanders 4-11-0 Miss L Sheen (5) 17
4 63-5 CHINGACHGOOK 16 S Dow 4-10-11 R Guest (5) 6
5 000/ CALL MY GUEST 283J (D,S) R Peacock 8-10-9 Mrs C Peacock (5) 7
6 351- LAUREL SEEKER 29 (CD) Mrs A Perrett 4-10-8 Mrs A Perrett 8
7 550- SLIEU WHALLIAN 74 R Hannon 4-10-8 C Vigors 4
8 003- HEVER GOLF EAGLE 198 (C) G L Moore 5-10-7 Mrs J Moore (3) 12
9 00-3 GLIDE PATH 14 (D,F,G) J Jenkins 9-10-5 Dr M Mannish (3) 1
10 0/0- RETENDER 38 (D,F,G) J Pearce 9-9-12 Mrs L Pearce 14
11 /04- MAZIRAH 11J (B) R Curtis 7-9-11 V Lukaniuk (5) 16
12 042- AQUAVITA 29 J S Moore 4-9-10 Mrs S Moore (5) 15
13 23-3 DON'T DROP BOMBS 15 (V,CD,F) R McGhin 9-9-9 Miss J Feilden 13
14 000- MYOSOTIS 21J (B) P Hiatt 4-9-7 J Crowley (5) 2
15 /0-0 LER CRU 7 (B,F) G Enright 9-9-5 S Findlay (7) 5
16 0-33 ROYAL CIRCUS 7 (CD,F,S) P Hiatt 9-9-4 Mrs S Bosley 11
17 00-0 TONRIN 18 J Bridger 6-9-3 Miss R Ilman (5) 3

7-2 Laurel Seeker, 5-1 Don't Drop Bombs, 7-1 Bon Guest, 8-1 Aquavita, Royal Circus, 12-1 Chingachgook, 14-1 No Pattern, Slieu Whallian, Mazirah, 16-1 others.

### 1.40 HARRINGTON BIRD CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,752: 6f) (7)

1 00-0 ROFFEY SPINNEY 16 (CD) R Hannon 4-9-3 W J O'Connor 5
2 01-2 MYSTICAL 11 (V,CD,G,S) Mrs L Stubbs 4-8-12 S Whitworth 7
516- THE FRISKY FARMER 117 (D,F,S) W G M Turner 5-8-7 C Lowther (3) 2
4 2-30 ULTRA BEET 3 (B,CD,F) P Haslam 6-8-7 L Charnock 1
5 -00R SLIGHTLY OLIVER 3 D Williams 4-8-3 Emily Joyce (7) 3
6 -665 SUPERLAO 4 (D,F,S) J Bridger 6-8-0 P Doe (7) 6
7 005- MELBOURNE PRINCESS 26 R Whitaker 4-7-12 A McCarthy (7) 4

6-4 Mystical, 7-4 Ultra Beet, 6-1 Roffey Spinney, 12-1 The Frisky Farmer, Melbourne Princess, 14-1 Superlao, 33-1 Slightly Oliver

### 2.10 SNAFFLES MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,712: 6f) (7)

1 00- MAGIC MORNING 78 W Musson 9-0 D O'Shea 5
2 0-6 PRINCE OF SALSA 3 (E) X McAuliffe 9-0 W J O'Connor 7
3 02-2 RED PEPPER 8 P Howling 9-0 S Whitworth 1
4 6-33 CHIKAPENNY 7 (V) Mrs L Stubbs 8-9 A McCarthy (7) 3
5 000- MARIANA 105 R Whitaker 8-9 Dean McKeown 6
6 22-4 MISSED THE CUT 11 R Hannon 8-9 R Smith (7) 4
7 252- PHANTOM RING 40 A Bailey 8-9 J Bosley (7) 2

7-4 Missed The Cut, 3-1 Phantom Ring, Red Pepper, 7-1 Chikapenny, 8-1 others.

### 2.45 MUNNINGS LIMITED STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,459: 1m 2f) (4)

1 5-61 ACCYSTAN 7 P Haslam 8-13 L Charnock 4
2 0-12 DANCING RIO 7 (BF) P Haslam 8-13 P Goode (7) 3
3 3-11 NISABA 11 (CD) J S Moore 8-12 P P Murphy (3) 1
4 0-30 ESTOPPED 7 M Quinn 8-11 A Whelan 2

4-5 Nisaba, 3-1 Accystan, 7-2 Dancing Rio, 16-1 Estopped.

### 3.20 CECIL ALDIN HANDICAP
(£3,518: 1m) (11)

1 634- BRILLIANT RED 42 (D,F) P Hedger 5-10-0 A Clark 11
2 /50- TOUGH LEADER 231 (F) B Hanbury 4-9-13 S Sanders 4
3 250- ROBO MAGIC 29 (C,F) L Montague Hall 6-9-8 M Harfield (7) 6
4 35-2 BARBASON 14 (CD,F) G L Moore 6-9-4 Candy Morris 7
5 51-4 KALIMAT 11 (CD) W Jarvis 4-9-0 P Dobbs (7) 8
6 00-0 ROYAL CARLTON 7 (CD) G L Moore 6-8-9 S Whitworth 1
7 000- MENDOZA 36 (B,CD) D Murray Smith 4-8-8 C Lowther (3) 9
8 003- SHADES OF LOVE 30 V Soane 4-8-7 C Rutter 3
9 20-3 COMANCHE COMPANION 16 (D,F,G,S) T Naughton 8-5-5 G Carter 5
10 0316 PAINT IT BLACK 2 (C,D,F,G) D Nicholls 5-7-12 A Nicholls (7) 2
11 0-35 FANCY DESIGN 4 P Mitchell 5-7-10 A McCarthy (7) 10

11-4 Comanche Companion, 5-1 Barbason, 6-1 Kalimat, Shades Of Love, 7-1 Robo Magic, 8-1 Paint It Black, 10-1 Brilliant Red, 12-1 others

### 3.50 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP FINAL (£9,272: 7f) (16)

1 101- APOLLO RED 29 (CD,F,S) G L Moore 9-10-0 Candy Morris 12
2 52-1 SPEEDY CLASSIC 14 (CD,F) M Heaton-Ellis 9-9-11 S Drowne 11
3 001- COSSACK COUNT 29 (CD,G,S) S Dow 5-9-9 P Doe (7) 8
4 62-5 TWIN CREEKS 8 (CD,F) V Soane 7-9-9 C Rutter 3
5 61-1 PLAN FOR PROFIT 15 (C,D,F,G) M Johnston 4-9-6 Dean McKeown 6
6 23-4 STOPPES BROW 14 (C,D,F,S) G L Moore 6-9-3 A Clark 10
7 12-3 PALACEGATE TOUCH 14 (B,BF,CD,F,G,S) J Berry 8-9-3 C Lowther (3) 7
8 1-14 REDOUBTABLE 10 (BF,CD,F,G) D Chapman 7-8-13 A Culhane 9
9 412- SALTY JACK 38 (CD,F) V Soane 4-8-13 R Perham 2
10 00-0 BLUE FLYER 14 (B,CD,F) R Ingram 5-8-11 S Sanders 1
11 34-1 FAYIK 8 (D) A Newcombe 4-8-10 T Williams 15
12 24-3 SCISSOR RIDGE 14 (CD,F) J Bridger 6-8-7 F Norton 4
13 640- DIGPAST 26 (V,CD,G) J Bridger 8-8-0 G Bardwell 5
14 110- CHIPSTEAD BAY 29 (BF,CD) K Ivory 4-8-0 Martin Dwyer 13
15 000- MR FROSTY 38 (CD) W Jarvis 6-7-12 Dale Gibson 16
16 240- ALFAHAAL 42 (BF,F,S) C Dwyer 5-7-11 D R McCabe 14

6-1 Speedy Classic, 7-1 Apollo Red, 8-1 Cossack Count, Redoubtable, 9-1 Palacegate Touch, 10-1 Fayik, Chipstead Bay, 11-1 others.

**COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRAINERS: D Nicholls, 12 winners from 55 runners, 21.8%; J Berry 30 from 148, 20.3%; B Hanbury, 9 from 45, 20.0%; V Soane, 5 from 25, 20.0%; P Haslam, 19 from 99, 19.2%; M Johnston, 50 from 271, 18.5%.

JOCKEYS: P Dobbs, 4 winners from 17 rides, 23.5%; Mrs S Bosley, 3 from 14, 21.4%; C Lowther, 7 from 41, 17.1%; Miss J Feilden, 4 from 26, 15.4%; D McKeown, 17 from 113, 15.0%; P P Murphy, 7 from 52, 13.5%.

## RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

### Kempton Park

Going: soft

1.00 (2m hdle) 1, Road Racer (J A McCarthy, 7-4 fav); 2, Dual Or Bust (25-1); 3, Almond Rock (100-30). 14 ran. 2½l, 8l. P Webber. Tote: £2.90; £1.30, £11.60, £1.70. DF: £72.80. Trio: £90.70. CSF: £51.23.

1.35 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Royal Arctic (Chris Webb, 7-1); 2, Bozo (7-1); 3, Welsh Silk (6-1). Macy 5-1 fav. 15 ran. NR: Surgical Spirit. 1½l, 7l. S Mellor. Tote: £6.70; £1.80, £2.70, £1.90. DF: £22.90. Trio: £61.50. CSF: £54.52. Tricast: £296.72.

2.05 (2m ch) 1, Morstock (T Dascombe, 9-4 fav); 2, Robins Pride (10-1); 3, Sublime Fellow (7-2). 8 ran. 1¼l, 1¼l. R Hodges. Tote: £2.90; £1.10, £2.30, £1.90. DF: £14.80. CSF: £22.41. Tricast: £70.19.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, Zafarabad (R Johnson, 13-8 fav); 2, Borazon (5-2); 3, Darcy (5-1). 13 ran. 2½l, 25l. D Nicholson. Tote: £2.70; £1.40, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £4.10. Trio: £5.00. CSF: £5.29.

3.10 (3m ch) 1, Sail By The Stars (S Wynne, 7-2); 2, Orswell Lad (8-1); 3, Redeemyourself (11-2). Eulogy 3-1 fav. 9 ran. 1¼l, 18l. T Forster. Tote: £3.60; £1.30, £2.50, £2.20. DF: £11.90. Trio: £25.10. CSF: £30.21. Tricast: £141.78.

3.40 (2m hdle) 1, Istoif (R Dunwoody, 2-1 fav); 2, Kedge Anchor Man (5-1); 3, Rossmore Girl (100-30). 14 ran. 10l, 7l. P Hobbs. Tote: £2.70; £1.80, £2.20, £1.20. DF: £6.10. Trio: £8.20. CSF: £12.84.

4.10 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Tompetoo (C Llewellyn, 3-1 fav; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Shepherds Rest (12-1); 3, Millmount (8-1). 15 ran. NR: Imad, Poatswood. 5l, 11l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £3.80; £1.70, £2.70, £2.80. DF: £18.60. Trio: £100.50. CSF: £40.76. Tricast: £266.52.

Jackpot: £3,173.80.

Placepot: £11.00. Quadpot: £2.70.

### Musselburgh

Going: good to soft, soft in places

12.50 (2m hdle) 1, King Of Thieves (D Gallagher, 6-1); 2, Count Tony (6-1); 3, Shining Example (10-1). Justin Mac 4-11 fav. 9 ran. NR: Hoh Express. ½l, 15l. C Mann. Tote: £4.70; £1.10, £1.20, £4.30. DF: £16.60. Trio: £48.50. CSF: £41.90.

1.20 (2m hdle) 1, George Dillingham (L Wyer, 11-10 fav); 2, Foel A Lino (4-1); 3, Inyougobiue (10-1). 9 ran. 18l, 2½l. Denys Smith. Tote: £1.80; £1.10, £1.50, £2.30. DF: £2.80. Trio: £6.90. CSF: £4.51.

1.50 (2m hdle) 1, Beber (Miss R Clark, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Far And Fancy (6-1); 3, Captain Tancred (50-1). Opera Fen 9-2 jt-fav. 15 ran. ½l, 3½l. S Clark. Tote: £6.50; £2.10, £3.50, £22.10. DF: £21.20. Trio: £234.00. CSF: £28.64. Tricast: £1,086.86.

2.20 (2m ch) 1, China King (P Carberry, 5-1); 2, Moss Pageant (16-1); 3, Noble Tom (5-2 fav). 10 ran. 4l, ½l. J Fitzgerald. Tote: £4.40; £1.10, £6.00, £1.50. DF: £22.50. Trio: £35.80. CSF: £68.41.

2.50 (3m hdle) 1, Robingo (Mr S Durack, 15-8 fav); 2, Topothenorthracing (3-1); 3, Shonara's Way (5-2). 8 ran. 6l, 8l. J Neville. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £1.20, £1.20. DF: £7.10. CSF: £7.48. Tricast: £12.13.

3.20 (2m ch) 1, Tom Brodie (E Callaghan, 9-2; Timekeeper's top rating); 2, Arche Sandy (5-2 fav); 3, Dual Image (10-1). 8 ran. 2l, nk. J H Johnson. Tote: £3.80; £1.60, £1.10, £2.80. DF: £4.20. CSF: £15.55. Tricast: £96.75.

3.50 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Forzair (P Carberry, 4-1); 2, Little Duke (13-2); 3, Pumptive Heart (7-1). Hurst Flyer 3-1 fav. 12 ran. ¾l, 10l. J J O'Neill. Tote: £4.80; £3.10, £1.20, £1.90. DF: £15.80. Trio: £72.00. CSF: £28.38. Tricast: £164.05.

Placepot: £66.40. Quadpot: £6.40.

**RICHARD EVANS**

**Nap: Jeffell**
**(2.20 Ascot)**

Jeffell holds Celibate on last year's Punchestown form yet is available at a bigger price for the Victor Chandler. Arthur Moore, his trainer, is in peak form, having won last week's Ladbroke Hurdle.

**NB: Unsinkable Boxer**
**(3.10 Warwick)**

### Southwell

Going: standard

12.30 (6f) 1, Kid Ory (P Fessey, 14-1); 2, Mullagh Hill Lad (12-1); 3, River Ensign (6-1). Seanchai 2-1 fav. 11 ran. 1¼l, nk. D Chapman. Tote: £17.00; £7.50, £2.40, £2.50. DF: £183.30. CSF: £172.79. Tricast: £1,059.70. Trio: £190.70.

1.00 (6f) 1, Ice Age (D Biggs, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Gadge (3-1 jt-fav); 3, Napoleon Star (7-2). 9 ran. NR: Superapparos, Unshaken. 7l, 2l. R Williams. Tote: £4.20; £1.20, £2.00, £1.60. DF: £7.10. CSF: £11.64. Tricast: £30.54.

1.30 (1m 3f) 1, Mr Fortywinks (Miss Diana Jones, 10-11 fav); 2, Head Gardener (12-1); 3, Modest Hope (14-1). 12 ran. 5l, 1¼l. J Eyre. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £2.50, £3.50. DF: £8.20. CSF: £14.93. Tricast: £108.02.

2.00 (2m) 1, Mister Aspecto (D Holland, 7-4 fav); 2, Private Fixture (9-2); 3, Golden Hadeer (7-1). 9 ran. 4l, hd. M Johnston. Tote: £3.30; £1.10, £2.30, £1.80. DF: £19.10. Trio: £29.50. CSF: £10.50.

2.30 (1m 4f) 1, China Castle (L Charnock, 4-5 fav); 2, Rattles Rooster (15-8); 3, Dick Turpin (12-1). 6 ran. NR: Fillal. 2l, 9l. P Haslam. Tote: £1.80; £1.30, £1.10. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.48.

3.00 (1m 3f) 1, Double Echo (Mr J Crowley, 14-1); 2, Adar (6-1); 3, Random Quest (7-2 fav). 12 ran. 1¾l, 3½l. J Bethell. Tote: £22.30; £3.40, £2.10, £3.00. DF: £95.30. Trio: £83.20. CSF: £91.87. Tricast: £337.79.

3.30 (7f) 1, Pine Ridge Lad (O Pears, evens fav); 2, Holloway Melody (10-1); 3, Awesome Venture (9-1). 11 ran. NR: Amy Leigh. 6l, 2¾l. J Eyre. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £2.30, £2.90. DF: £10.60. Trio: £19.80. CSF: £13.16.

4.00 (1m) 1, Godmersham Park (G Parkin, 9-4 fav); 2, Dancing Destiny (7-1); 3, Pleasure Trick (8-1). 15 ran. NR: Bowcliffe. 1¾l, 2½l. P Felgate. Tote: £3.50; £2.00, £2.20, £6.30. DF: £15.10. Trio: £49.00. CSF: £18.85. Tricast: £116.01.

Placepot: £33.30. Quadpot: £5.50.

# Klim claims third gold with room for more

FROM CRAIG LORD IN PERTH

THERE are more medals in Room 8 at the Australia team hotel than the number on the door — and five belong to Michael Klim, who, in winning the 100 metres butterfly yesterday to collect his third gold, became the most successful man in world championship history.

The day after Ian Thorpe, his room-mate, made the record books by becoming the youngest world champion, at 15 years and 94 days, Klim, 20, set a championship record of 52.25sec, the second-fastest time recorded and just 0.1sec shy of his own world record.

Klim's victory saw him match the tally of three gold medals at world championships by Matt Biondi — and he has still to race the 50 metres freestyle and medley relay. The American's count, however, includes two relay medals. Did such statistics mean much? "Probably in two weeks' time when I'm lying on a beach, but right now I've got more races and I need to stay focused," Klim said.

Walking out both for his race and the medal ceremony, Klim hit a wall of sound from an Australian crowd that is building him up to be the man who will make the tallest waves at the Olympic Games in Sydney 2000. The noise was like a "cushion", Klim said. "It's like walking into a blanket."

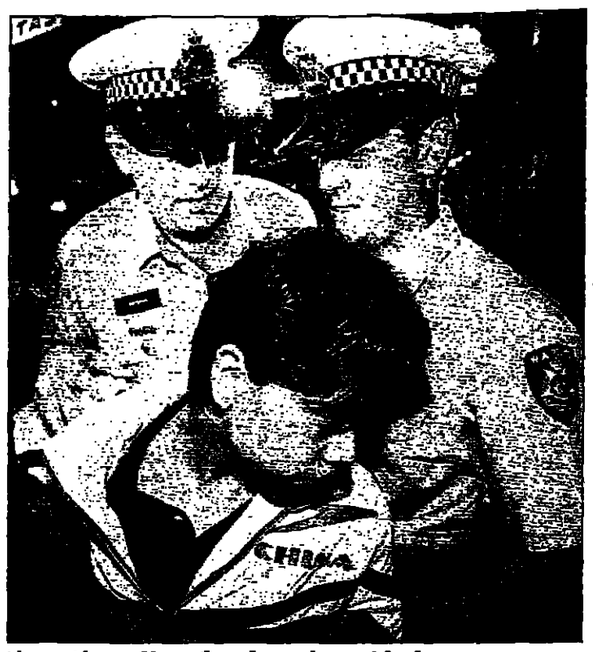
There was no such comfort for Wu Yanyan and Chen Yan, the latest two world record-holders from China, who filled the two top slots in the 200 metres medley but were greeted to the medal rostrum by an almost inaudible ripple.

In third place was Martina Moravcova, of Slovakia, who trains in the United States and has no connections with Australia. The crowd erupted with almost as much frenzy as when Klim stopped the clock in the butterfly. Wu's 2min 10.88sec was a championship record and the second-fastest in history, behind her own 2min 09.72sec.

China withdrew from the women's 4 x 100 metres medley relay yesterday, leaving the United States clear to emerge victorious in 4min 01.93sec, just 0.26sec outside the world record set by China at the 1994 championships.

## Craig Lord on world championship revelations and recriminations





Werner, left, said that the sport had to live by its rulebook and that the China team could not be sent home. Yuan, though, was banned for four years

# Ten days that put swimming to shame

As torrential rain spilt from a mournful sky here in Perth yesterday, it seemed that a cathartic process might be taking place in a sport seemingly drowning in a sea of drugs. After ten days in which the world swimming championships suffered revelation after revelation about doping, it was a moment for reflection.

When news came through from Sydney a week last Thursday that customs officers had confiscated a flask containing 26 vials of human growth hormone (HGH), found in the luggage of a Chinese swimmer, the first response of Fina, the international governing body, was symptomatic of the sport's failure to act since a shoal of bulky, deep-voiced East German women scooped nine world titles in 1973.

Prodding me in the chest with two fingers, Cornel Marculescu, a Fina director who would wish the world to "talk about our stars, not about drugs, drugs, drugs", said: "This is a balloon, I don't believe it. Show me the paper, where is the proof?" He shrugged in resignation as the customs confirmation arrived. It was early evening, but the night would be long.

The Chinese, including Yuan Yuan, a former world championship medal-winner, and her coach, Zhou Zhewen, had been allowed to board a plane from Sydney to Perth and a troop of some 150 journalists, photographers and cameramen gathered for the 4am greeting. What followed were some of the saddest scenes witnessed in this sport. A tearful little girl was knocked to the floor in the crush as the media herd advanced on the Chinese. Yuan was hounded so heavily that six of the 40 or more armed police officers had to form a cordon to escort her to a waiting bus. Probably already the victim of abuse through drugs administered to her by coaches and doctors back home, she must have been terrified. She certainly looked it and, cheat or not, she deserved better.

Back at the Challenge Stadium pool by 8.30am, the media awaited a Fina decision. Yuan would be suspended pending the decision of the Doping Panel. The job would be delayed, Fina said, because of bureaucracy, it being almost the weekend.

Day one of racing dawned and China ended it top of the table, with gold, silver and bronze medals. Day two brought a mysterious go-slow. Not one Chinese made a final. The puzzle was soon resolved. After the finals session that night, Fina issued a press release: Yuan would be suspended for four years and Zhou for 15 years. And, by the way, four Chinese had tested positive for a diuretic used to mask performance-enhancing substances.

Where was Fina? Some delegates were sipping white wine and eating nuts at Fina's poolside VIP suite, while others had already left for a gala dinner for more than 400 guests at the plush Hyatt Hotel, overlooking the Swan River. Nero and his fiddle were surely somewhere in the band.

It turned out that, as Yuan was meeting Sydney police, the Chinese who had already arrived in Perth were being invited to provide urine samples as part of a US $200,000 Australian-funded, Fina-approved programme to carry out unannounced tests on about four-fifths of all swimmers before the championships. China, though, refused officials of the Australian Sports Drugs Agency (Asda) access to its swimmers because the testers, wearing official Asda uniforms, had forgotten to bring their badge of Fina authority. We will never know what they might have unearthed. The tests that were to reveal a diuretic flushing agent were taken the next morning.

The world called for China to be sent home. There was no provision in the rulebook, Fina said. It could only suspend a country if four of its swimmers tested positive for anabolic steroids, specifically, in a 12-month period. There was no provision for calling an extraordinary meeting to change the situation, Gunnar Werner, honorary secretary of Fina, added. Some suggested that an extra line be added to the medal table: drug count.

Criticism of China and Fina has been harsh and mostly justified. However, the critics now appear guilty of the same offence they charge Fina with: talk but no action. They could boycott the Beijing round of the World Cup next month, as Sweden, host to the Malmo round, and the US will do. Instead, Australia and Britain, among others, have taken a lily-livered look at rules that say nations who host a round must attend all others, and adhered to it.

In the long term, swimming may benefit, the hope being that Sydney 2000 could be a relatively "clean" Olympic Games if cheats fear the kind of shaming meted out to China this week. It would help that process if the International Olympic Commitee and Fina take seriously evidence that will be presented by scientists next week. Novo Nordisk, the Danish company that supplied the HGH found in Yuan's bag — though for hospitals, not sport — says it has found a way of testing for growth hormone.

That will require swimmers to give blood. If Fina wishes to have a clean sport, it must consider drawing up an anti-drugs charter. Those who refuse to sign must find other waters to wade in. The alternative is to tolerate those who follow the East German model, including China and individuals who make a mockery of sport.

SNOOKER

# Hendry in search of record and revenge

BY PHIL YATES

STEPHEN HENDRY will face a tricky initial contest when his challenge for a record-breaking 29th world ranking tournament win begins at the Regal Welsh Open in Newport tomorrow.

The six-times world champion, who has failed to add to his collection of 64 titles since the Benson and Hedges Irish Masters ten months ago, will have revenge uppermost in his mind when he plays Jamie Burnett, a fellow Scot.

In October, Burnett, who practices alongside Hendry at Spencers, Stirling, beat him in the second round of the Grand Prix at Bournemouth. "I don't want to play Stephen again in a hurry — he could have a bee in his bonnet," Burnett said at the time.

Burnett was not required to pot a ball to reach the last 64. He was awarded a walkover when Jamie Woodman, of Bristol, withdrew because of a shoulder injury sustained in a car accident three months ago.

In contrast, Paul Hunter, voted young player of the year in 1996 following his run to the semi-finals of the Regal Welsh, earned a place in the last 64 the hard way by recovering from a 3-0 deficit to beat Paul Wykes 5-3.

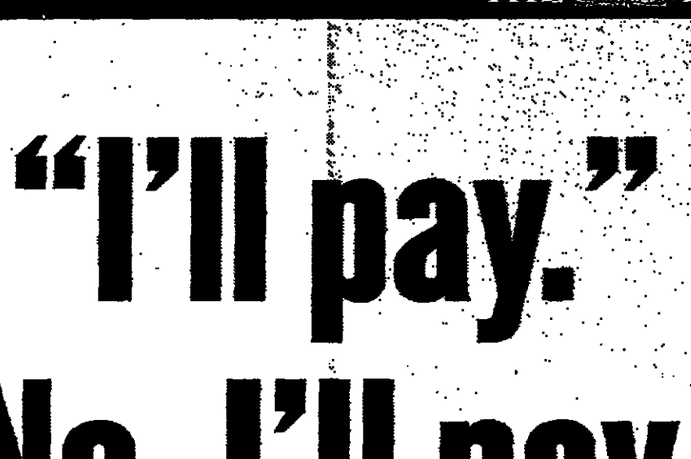
Hunter, still only 19, found his range in the fourth frame with a 54 break, drew level at 3-3 by winning the sixth on the black and, with Wykes' resistance broken, comfortably accounted for the next two frames with runs of 97 and 79.

Lee Richardson, a shaven-headed extrovert who has made a rap record, felt more like singing the blues after losing 5-3 to Euan Henderson. Richardson, whose father was once ballroom dancing coach at Oxford University, led 3-0.

A 136 total clearance, during his 5-3 victory over Darren Clarke, enabled Gerard Greene to establish an early challenge for the £1,000 highest pre-televised break prize.

Results, page 41

"I'll pay."
"No, I'll pay."
"No, I insist."




Starting in Monday's Times, eat out for £5 in more than 600 restaurants around the country.

http://www.the-times.co.uk CHANGING TIMES

## GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

### FOOTBALL

*Kick-off 3.0 unless stated*

**FA CARLSBERG VASE:** Fourth round: Billingham v Bodmin T; Braintree T v Lymington; Clitheroe v Burgess H; Cowes Sp v N Ferriby; Gt Wakering v Folkestone Invicta; Hucknall T v Wroxham, Kidsgrove A v Brache; Oadby T v Tooting and Mitcham; Spalding v Birstall U, Stamford v Potters Bar T; Stotfold v Pontlevein; Sudbury T v Burscough; Sudbury W v Bedlington; Taunton v Herne Bay; Tiverton T v W Auckland, Tow Law v Histon.

**LEAGUE OF WALES:** Bangor C v Rhyl (2.0), Barry v Aberystwyth (2.0); Carmarthen v Ebbw Vale (2.0); Connah's Quay v Caernarfon (2.30); Cwmbran v Caersws (2.30); Newtown v Haverfordwest (2.30); Porthmadog v TNS (2.30), Rhayader v Inter Cable-Tel (2.30); Welshpool v Flint (2.30).

**HIGHLAND LEAGUE:** Buckie Th v Cove; Clachnacuddin v Brora; Ft William v Elgin; Fraserburgh v Deveronvale; Huntly v Keith; Lossiemouth v Forres Mech; Nairn Co v Peterhead, Wick Ac v Rothes.

**THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP:** Third round: Liverpool v Queens Park Rangers.

**COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE:** Premier division: Abingdon v Fairford; Almondsbury v Shortwood; Banbury v Swindon S'manns; Burnham v N Leigh; Carterton v Harrow Hl; Didcot v Kintbury; Tuffley v Hallen, Wantage v Bicester

**ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE:** First division: Billingham v Jarrow Rl; Consett v Durham; Crook v Easington CWM; Gusborough v Dunston Fed; Penrith v Morpeth; Seaham RS v Shildon, S Shields v Murton, Stockton v RTM Newcastle.

**WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE:** First division: Chatham v VCD; Crockenhill v Canterbury; Erith v Deal; Faversham v Slade Green; Sheppey v Hythe, Swanley Furness v Corinthian; Thamesmead v Lordswood, Tunbridge Wells v Ramsgate.

**SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE:** Premier division: Bideford v Paulton R; Bridport v Brislington, Bristol MF v Torrington; Chippenham v Bridgewater, Elmore v Calne, Odd D v Melksham, Westbury v Chard

**MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE:** Premier division south: Beaconsfield v St Margaretsbury; Brimsdown v Cockfosters; Hanwell v Amersham, Hereford v Ruislip Mnr; Hornsey Boro v Hillingdon Boro, Woodford v Islington. Premier division north: Arlesey v Bedford, Hoddesdon v Milton Keynes; Letchworth v Langford, London Colney v Welwyn GC, Royston v Biggleswade, Toddington v Buckingham Athletic.

**OLD BOYS' LEAGUE:** Premier division: Cardinal Manning v Latymer; Enfield OG v O Vaughanians; Glyn v O Hamptonians, O Meadonians v O Suttonians. Senior first division: O Buckwellians v O Kingsburians; O Isleworthians v Clapham OX, O Mannonians v Chertsey OS, O Salvatonians v O Regalians, Phoenix v O Wilsonians.

**SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE:** O Actonians v O Parmiterians, Lloyds Bank v Lensbury; East Barnet OG v South Bank Poly; Old Lyonians v Midland Bank, Cuaco v Barclays Bank; Old Latymerians v Old Esthamelans; Old Parkonians v Winchmore Hill; Ibs v Alleyn OB, Old Westminster Cc v Bank of England; Broomfield v Southgate Olympic; Merton v Bromham.

**ARTHURIAN LEAGUE:** Premier division: Carthusians v Chigwellians; Foresters v Haberdashers, Salopians v Etonians Arthur Dunn Cup: Bradfieldians v Brentwoods

**SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE:** First division (11.0 unless stated): Arsenal v Fulham (10.45); Charlton v Leyton Orient; C Palace v QPR; Gillingham v Millwall, Ipswich v Southend, Norwich v W Ham, Portsmouth v Cambridge, Watford v Tottenham Second division: Barnet v Southampton; Brentford v Brighton; Bristol R v Bournemouth, Oxford U v Luton; Swindon v Reading, Tottenham v Bristol C; Wycombe v Colchester.

**COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE:** Premier division: Ashford v Nethorne; Chessington/H v Chipstead, Farnham v Bedfont; Marsham v Sandhurst; Reading T v Viking Sp, Walton Cas v Godalming and G'ld; Westfield v Cove

**NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE:** First division: Chadderton v Blackpool R, Holker OB v Atherton LR, Mainc Rd v Glossop NE, Mossley v Haslington, Northwich T v Salford, Prescot Cables v Ramsbottom; Rossendale v St Helens; Vauxhall GM v Newcastle T, Warrington v Darwen

**ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION:** Premier division: Alvechurch v Knowle, Bolehall v Handrahan; Coleshill v Continental, Coventry Sphinx v Kings Hm, Dudley So v M Ferguson; GPT v Chesiyn H; Highgate v Meir KA; Kenilworth v Bilston CC, Wellesbourne v Worcester.

**ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE:** Premier division: Brentwood v Bowers; Hullbridge v Eton Mnr; E Ham v Burnham Rbl, Southend Mnr v Concord R; Stanstod v Ilford.

**BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE:** Premier division: Brierley Hill v Blowich; Bustleholme v Stourport; Cradley T v Kington T; Gornal A v Darlaston; Lye v Ludlow T; Malvern T v Tividale; Walsall Wood v Stafford, Westfields v Wolverhampton; Wolverhampton C v Ettingshall.

**JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE:** Premier division: Clacton v Stowmarket; Diss v Newmarket; Ely v Harwich and Parkeston, Gorleston v Halstead; Gt Yarmouth v Soham; Lowestoft v Fakenham, Warboys v Tiptree; Watton v Felixstowe P and T

**JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE:** First division: AFC Newbury v Downton, Andover v Totton; Bemerton H v Aerostructures, Christchurch v Gosport; Portsmouth v Eastleigh, Romsey v BAT; Thatcham v Brockenhurst; Wimborne v E Cowes.

**UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE:** Premier division: Buckingham v Holbeach; Desborough v Yaxley; Ford Sports v Bourne, Long Buckby v Kempston, Potton v Cogenhoe; St Neots v S and L Corby; Wootton v Wellingborough

**UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE:** First division: Chichester v Hailsham; Hassocks v Peacehaven and Telscombe, Langney Sp v Arundel, Portfield v Redhill, Ringmer v Pagham; Saltdean v Selsey; Shoreham v Eastbourne T, Wick v Mile Oak.

**INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE:** Bridgnorth v Stratford T; Chasetown v Sandwell, Halesowen H v Shifnal T; Oldbury v Rocester; Pelsall v Rushall; Pershore v Bloxwich; Stapenhill v Bolehmers Sht; Wednesfield v Knypersley V; Willenhall v Barwell.

**NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE:** Premier division: Donaby v Maltby MW; Glasshoughton v Curzon Ashton; Hallam v Brigg T, Hatfield Main v Eccleshill; Liversedge v Arnold, Ossett T v Armthorpe Wel; Selby v Ossett A; Sheffield v Pickering; Thackley v Pontefract Cols.

*FA PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE:* Arsenal v C Palace (10.45), Barnsley v Coventry (11.0); Middlesbrough v Derby (12.30); Notts Forest v Leeds (11.0), Sheffield Weds v Sunderland (12.0); Southampton v Chelsea (11.0); W Ham v Tottenham (11.0).

### RUGBY UNION

*Kick-off 3.0 unless stated*

**Allied Dunbar Premiership**
**First division**

Leicester v Wasps (2.0)
London Irish v Richmond

**Second division**

Bedford v Fylde
Blackheath v London Scottish
Exeter v Coventry
Orrell v West Hartlepool
Rotherham v Moseley (2.15)
Wakefield v Waterloo (2.30).

**Jewson National League**
**First division**

Liverpool St H v London Welsh (2.30)
Lydney v Harrogate
Newbury v Wharfedale
Otley v Rosslyn Park (2.15)
Reading v Leeds (2.15)
Rugby v Nottingham
Worcester v Morley (2.30)

**Second division north**

Aspatria v Sheffield (2.30)
Birmingham/Solihull v Nuneaton (2.15)
Kendal v Lichfield (2.30)
Manchester v Hinckley (2.15)
Preston G v Wimmington Park (2.15)
Sedgley Park v Stourbridge (2.15)
Walsall v Sandal (2.30)

**Second division south**

Barking v Plymouth (2.15)
Bridgwater v Weston-super-Mare
Camberley v Henley (2.0)
Clifton v Cheltenham (2.30)
Havant v Esher (2.30)
North Walsham v Redruth (2.30).
Tabard v Metropolitan Police (2.15)

**SOUTH WEST:** First division: Barnstaple v Penzance and Newlyn; Berry Hill v Maidenhead, High Wycombe v Gloucester Old Boys; Launceston v Bracknell; Matson v Torquay; Stroud v St Ives.

**LONDON AND SOUTH EAST:** First division: Askeans v Chesham; Basingstoke v Sudbury; Charlton Park v Thurrock; Guildford and Godalming v Purley; Harlow v Staines; O Colfeians v Southend; O Mid-Whitgiftians v Norwich; Wimbledon v Sutton and Epsom.

**MIDLANDS:** First division: Barkers Butts v Scunthorpe; Belgrave v Mansfield; Broadstreet v Leighton Buzzard, Burton v Hereford; Camp Hill v Banbury; Westleigh v Syston, Whitchurch v Stoke-on-Trent; Wolverhampton v Kenilworth

**NORTH:** First division: Doncaster v Broughton Park; Hull Ionians v Wigton, Middlesbrough v Stockton; Tynedale v Macclesfield, Widnes v Bridlington; West Park Bramhope v New Brighton.

**NPI CUP:** Fifth round: North: Bedford Athletic v Hereford.

**TETLEY'S BITTER VASE:** Fifth round: Midlands: Loughborough Students v Wigston

**Welsh Challenge Trophy**
**Pool A**

Pontypridd v Northern Transvaal (6.0)

**Pool B**

Neath v Cordoba (2.30).
Newport v Rosario (2.30)

**Welsh League**
**First division**

Aberavon v Cardiff Institute (2.30)
Abertillery v Merthyr (2.30)
Blackwood v Maesteg (2.30)
Dunvant v Cross Keys (2.30)
Llandovery v Rumney (2.30).
Newbridge v Caerphilly (2.30)
Pontypool v South Wales Police (2.30)
Treorchy v Bonymaen (2.30)

**Tennents Premiership**
**First division**

Cume.v Stirling County (2.0)
Edinburgh Acads v Heriot's FP (2.0)
Jed-Forest v Boroughmuir (2.0)
Melrose v West of Scotland (2.0).
Watsonians v Hawick (2.0)

**Second division**

Biggar v Peebles (2.0).
Glasgow Hawks v Gala (2.0)
Kelso v Musselburgh (2.0)
Kilmarnock v Dundee HSFP (2.0)
Preston Lodge v Kirkcaldy (2.0).

**Third division**

Aberdeen GSFP v Gordonians (2.0)
Ayr v Stewart's Melville FP (2.0).
Glasgow Southern v Glenrothes (2.0).
Hillhead/Jordanhill v Stewartry (2.0).
Selkirk v Grangemouth (2.0)

**AIB League**
**First division**

Blackrock Coll v Old Belvedere (2.30)
Clontarf v Lansdowne (2.30)
Cork Con v Young Munster (2.30)
Dungannon v Garryowen (2.30)
Old Crescent v Ballymena (2.30)
Shannon v St Mary's Coll (2.30)
Terenure Coll v Dolphin (2.30)

**Second division**

Bective Rangers v Skerries (2.30)
Buccaneers v Instonians (2.30)
DLSP v Greystones (2.30)
Derry v Old Wesley (2.30)
Sunday's Well v Monkstown (2.30)
UCC v Galwegians (2.30)
Wanderers v Malone (2.30)

**CLUB MATCH:** Oxford University v Durham University.

### RUGBY LEAGUE

**CLUB MATCH:** Barrow v Whitehaven (3.0).

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE:** Premier division (2.0 unless stated): Egremont v Dudley Hill (2.30); Leigh Miners v Walney Central (2.30); Saddleworth v Mayfield; West Hull v Lock Lane; Wigan St Patrick's v Bewerley (2.30); Wooiston v Oldham St Anne's (2.30). First division: Eastmoor v Wigan St Jude's (2.30), Milford v Leigh East (2.30); Millom v Moldgreen; Dutton v Barrow Island; Shaw Cross v Redhill; Thornhill v Skirlaugh. Second division: Dewsbury Moor v Featherstone Amateurs, Dodworth v Hull Dockers; Eccles v London Students (2.30); New Earswick v York Acorn; Normanton v Siddal; Ovenden v Crosfields

### HOCKEY

**ESL SOUTH LEAGUE:** Premier league: Anchorians v Portsmouth; Chichester v Ramgarhia; Eastcote v Trojans; Gore Cr v Richmond; Herne Bay v Beckenham, High Wycombe v Wimbledon; Maidenhead v Farnham; O Whitgiftians v Bournemouth, Purley v Winchester, Woking v Tunbridge Wells. Hampshire/Surrey: Barnes v London Univ, Camberley v Epsom, Cheam v O Mid-Whitgiftians; Dulwich v Oxshott; Guan v Haslemere; O Walcountians v O Georgians; O Cranleighans v Basingstoke; Oxted v Andover; Portsmouth v Spencer Kent/Sussex: BBHC v Folkestone; Eastbourne v Newhaven, Horsham v Brighton; Marden Russets v Bexley Invicta; Middleton-Bognor v Ashford; Mid Sussex v Lloyds Bank; O Bordenians v Blackheath; O Holcombeians v Burnt Ash; O Williamsonians v Worthing, Sevenoaks v Tulse Hill. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v PHC Chiswick; Bracknell v Milton Keynes, City of Oxford v Phoenix, Gerrards Cross v Marlow, Hendon v W Hampstead Newbury v Farnham Common; O Kingstonians v Lions, Staines v Ashford; Sunbury v Richings Pk; Wokingham v Hayes.

**DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLANDS LEAGUE:** Premier division: Bloxwich v N Notts; Coventry and N Warwicks v Olton and W Warwicks; Edgbaston v Hampton-in-Arden, Khalsa v Blossomfield; N Stafford v Nottingham; Northampton St v Harborne

**NORTHERN LEAGUE:** First division: Formby v Norton; Sheffield Bankers v Harrogate; Southport v Durham Univ; Swalwell v Neston, Timperley v Chester; Wigan v Ban Rhydding

**ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE:** Premier division A: Cambridge C v Sudbury; Colchester v Bishop's Stortford, Cowbys v Cambridge Univ; Ipswich v Clacton; Peterborough v Luton Premier division B: Dereham v Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich and E Suffolk v Bedford; Norwich C v Redbridge and Ilford; O Southendian v St Ives; Romford v W Herts.

**WEST OF ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES LEAGUE:** Premier division: Exeter Univ v Swansea; Robinsons v Cheltenham; Taunton Vale v Clevedon; Weston-super-Mare v Bath Buccs, Whitchurch v Bristol Univ

**WOMEN'S NATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE:** Premier division (at Crystal Palace, 9.20): Doncaster v Olton; Leicester v Chelmsford; Hightown v Ipswich; Slough v Doncaster; Olton v Leicester, Chelmsford v Hightown; Ipswich v Slough. First division (at Cocks Moors Woods, 9.20). Second division (at East Grinstead HC, 9.15)

**MIDLAND BANK WELSH WOMEN'S LEAGUE:** Cardiff Ath v Pontypridd; Colwyn Bay v Newtown, Newport v Penarth; Cardiff Inst v Swansea

### OTHER SPORT

**BASKETBALL:** National Cup: Final: Leicester v Thames Valley (at Sheffield Arena, 2.30). Budweiser League: Derby v Crystal Palace (7.30); Watford v Birmingham (7.30); Worthing v Manchester (8.0).

**ICE HOCKEY:** Superleague (6.30): Newcastle v Cardiff; Basingstoke v Bracknell Express Cup: Ayr v Nottingham.

**TABLE TENNIS:** Men's European League: Super division: Semi-final, first leg: England v Greece (at Great Yarmouth).

## TOMORROW

### RUGBY UNION

**Allied Dunbar Premiership**
**First division**

Bristol v Gloucester (3.0)
Harlequins v Northampton (3.0)
Newcastle v Bath (at Gateshead Stadium, 3.0).
Saracens v Sale (3.0)

**Welsh Challenge Trophy**
**Pool A**

Ebbw Vale v Tucuman (2.0)

**Pool B**

Swansea v Rugby Canada (2.0)

### RUGBY LEAGUE

**Silk Cut Challenge Cup**
**Play-off**

Oldham v Haworth (3.0)

**CLUB MATCHES:** Barrow v Workington (3.0); Hunslet v Batley (3.30), Leeds v Sheffield (3.0); Widnes v Leigh (3.0)

### HOCKEY

**NATIONAL LEAGUE:** Premier division: Barford Tigers v Celtic (at Alumwell CC, Walsall, 2.0), Beeston v Teddington (at Highfields, 2.0); Cannock v Reading (at Morris Ground, 2.30); Doncaster v Old Loughtonians (at Bennetthorpe, 2.0); East Grinstead v Guildford (at Saint Hill, 2.30); Hounslow v Canterbury (at Dukes Meadows, Chiswick, 2.0). First division: Bromley v Oxford Hawks (at Priory LC, Orpington, 1.0), Firebrands v Bournville (at Longwood, Bristol, 1.0); Gloucester City v Bluemarts (at Plock Court, 1.30); Harleston Magpies v Chelmsford (at Shotford Heath, 2.0); Havant v Isca (at Havant Coll, 2.0); Hull v Brooklands (at Danepark Road, 2.0); Loughborough Students v Sheffield (at Loughborough Univ, 2.30); Oxford Univ v Surbiton (at St Edward's School, 2.30); St Albans v Hampstead and Westminster (at Clarence Park, 2.0), Stourport v Lewes (at Kidderminster School, 1.30); Warrington v Indian Gymkhana (at Penketh County HS, 1.30)

**WOMEN'S NATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE:** Premier division (at Crystal Palace, 9.20): Ipswich v Chelmsford; Olton v Slough; Hightown v Leicester; Doncaster v Ipswich; Chelmsford v Olton, Slough v Hightown; Leicester v Doncaster. First division (at Cocks Moors Woods, 9.20). Second division (at E Grinstead HC, 9.15)

### OTHER SPORT

**BASKETBALL:** Budweiser League: Chester v Sheffield (5.30); London Towers v Newcastle (5.0)

**ICE HOCKEY:** Superleague: Ayr v Cardiff (6.30), Nottingham v Basingstoke (7.0); Bracknell v Sheffield (6.0)

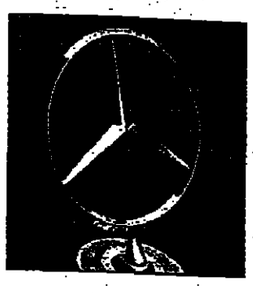
Office

هكذا من الأصل

صفحة من الأصل

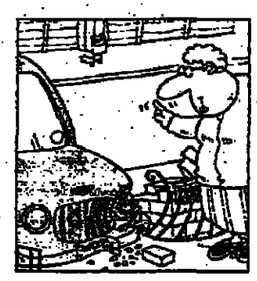






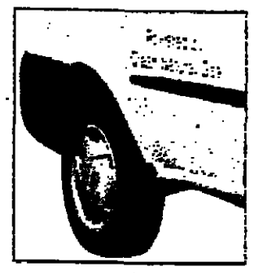
The joys of living in an estate

Page 47



Why we say the car is to blame

Page 47



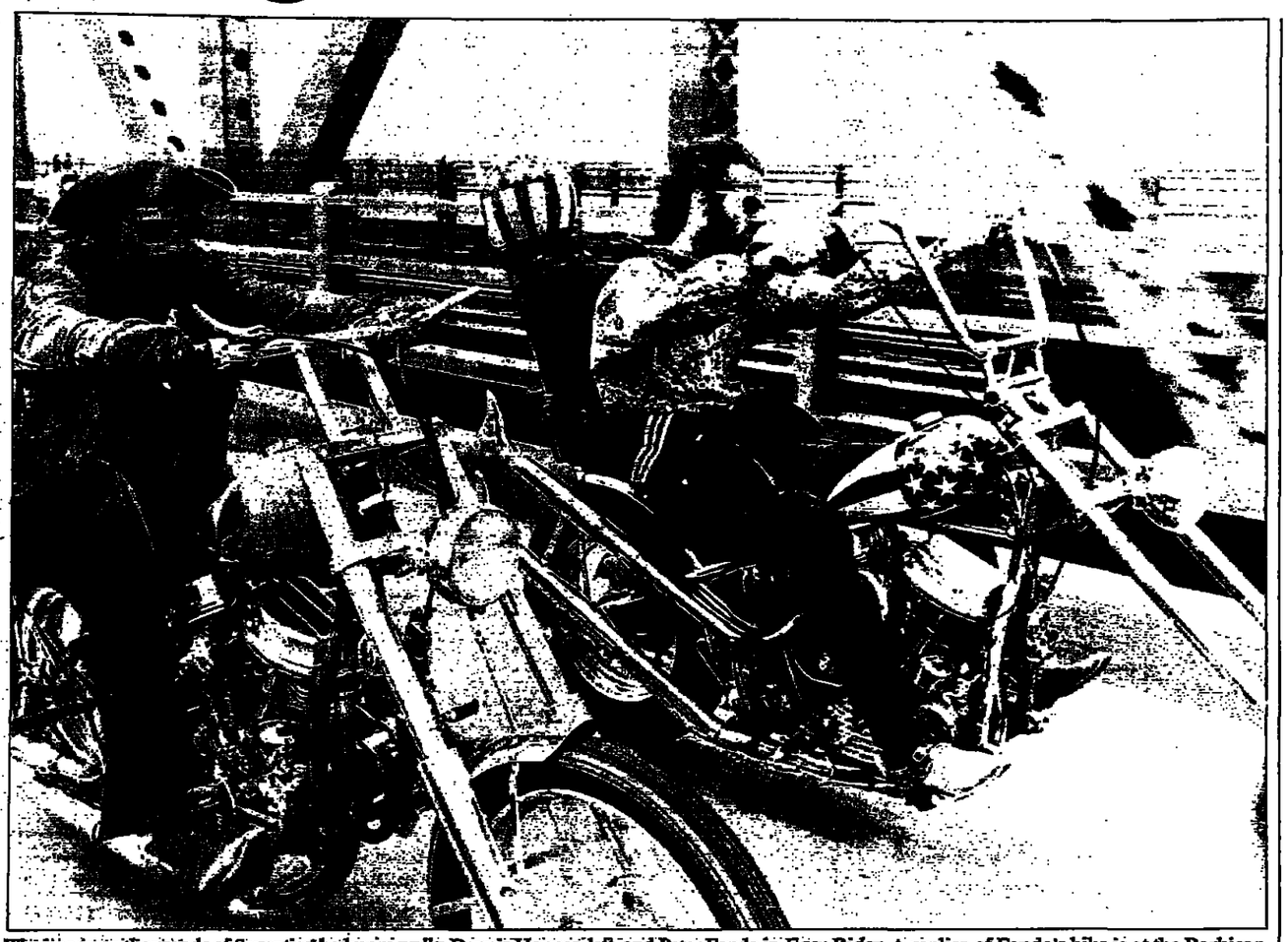
Ford puts clean fuel on the open road

Page 49



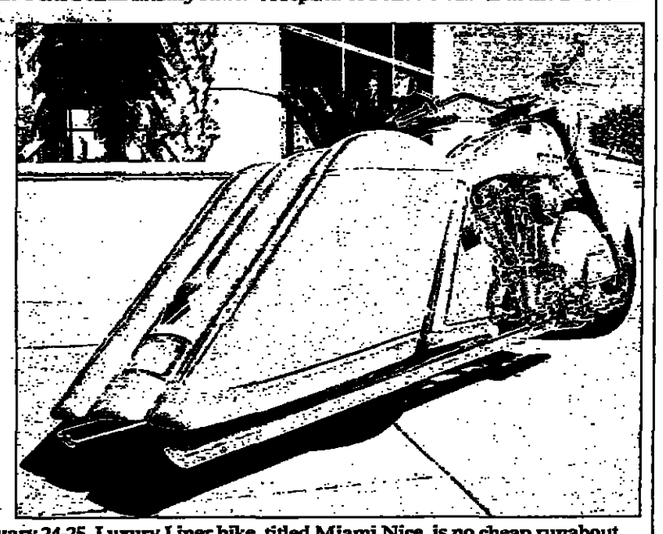
# It's Hog heaven — but is it art?

**Harley opens a major cultural show this week. John Naish says the boys have gone soft**



The image on thousands of Seventies' bedroom walls: Dennis Hopper, left, and Peter Fonda in *Easy Rider*. A replica of Fonda's bike is at the Barbican





*The Loveless*, left, is part of the Barbican's biker film weekend on January 24-25. Luxury Liner bike, titled Miami Nice, is no cheap runabout

Watch out Mister, it's the wild one: Harley-Davidson is headed into town, its snarly big bikes glinting bad attitude and general menace. And there's going to be people with big tattoos and poor dentistry, too. So lock up your daughters.

On second thoughts, bring the family, because Harley has become the *mild* one. London's Barbican Centre, home to things smart and cultured, is mounting a major three-month exhibition of Harley bikes, ephemera and films, starting this Thursday: and it's classed as *art*.

Not that Harley minds: it is supporting the exhibition. Nowadays, nice people with wads of disposable income are out to buy a piece of the outlaw biker action. And for Harley-Davidson Inc, that means big bucks, selling high-priced heavy metal merchandise — albeit in a no-salt, low-cal, decaffeinated sort of way.

It's a skilled job creating this soft-hard image: upset the boys from Milwaukee nowadays and you won't get socked on the jaw — the company is liable to run to its lawyers, as a Californian firm of "adult" film-makers has discovered.

Harley-Davidson recently took them to court in America over a porn video that featured scenes of sex on motorbikes and rugs emblazoned with the Harley logo.

Fearing that its good name might be stained, it is alleging breach of trademark. "Writs have been served and the legal case is underway," says a Harley official. "These sorts of things do no good for the corporate image." So no sex and rugs, though rock'n'roll is probably OK, so long as it's not too loud. As the Harley official says: "We are *selling* the rebel *image* in a politically correct way."

Behind the *Easy Rider* sneer is a sharp corporation dedicated to beating off Japanese manufacturers' blatant Harley cruiser clones. Thus far it has successfully kept its brand-name at the forefront of public adulation: ask a non-motorcyclist to name the best bike in the world and they will often as not say Harley.

The firm has just had its 30th successive record-breaking financial report — $444.2 million from selling bikes, clothing and other merchandise in just three months.

Its marketing tentacles have spread: buy a new Harley, and you are automatically in HOG, the Harley Owners Group, a company-created club that encourages members to go on its organised runs, buy brand-name clothing and ephemera, and hang out with others living out the dream. *It's clean, it's fun, it's lucrative*, it's Nineties.

The tensions are borne out in the Barbican exhibition, to which *The Times* was given an exclusive preview. The show might celebrate H-D's 95th birthday, but it starts off with the 1947 Hollister riots, where renegades on customised ex-Army Harleys took over a small American town — the *inspiration* for Marlon Brando's showpiece, *The Wild One*, which features in the Barbican's biker film season.

The exhibition also features an amazing twin-engined, 2,000cc dragster by customiser Arlen Ness, creator of the original chopper style, whose shop in Oakland is a stone's throw away (not that you would) from the Hell's Angels chapter that starred in Hunter S. Thompson's book of the same name.

Then there's a gorgeous replica of the "Captain America" Harley designed and ridden by Peter Fonda in *Easy Rider* (the original was apparently wrecked in filming when Fonda's outlaw character was martyred at the end).

There's a theme here — and it's probably not unintentional — the exhibits reinforce how Harley's image has been generated as much by a massive media engine as by its thundering V-twin motors.

And the show takes us further from the mundane motorcycling reality of damp roads, cold winds and blind car drivers by featuring several "luxury liner" bikes — sculpted metal dreams commissioned by the super-rich at £90,000-100,000 a throw.

These mantlepiece-fillers even have custom paint inside the exhaust pipes. Built for jaunts down to Sainsbury's they are not. While some of the display bikes are ridden in the summer, others have never been started.

Throughout the exhibition, with its tattooed biker sideshows and bike-rally photos, the image/reality clash pervades, as does the tension between outlaw and "lifestyle" bikers. "Hardcore riders call the newer owners 'weekend warriors'," says the Barbican curator, Conrad Bodman. "It's a very interesting situation."

Indeed, the show is a dream ticket for a motorcycling sociology trip — but try not to drool on the exhibits.

*The Art of the Harley is at the Barbican Centre from January 22 to April 28. Tel 0171-588 9023*

American Arts 98: see today's supplement

CRUISING THE LATEST HARLEYS

## King of the road: so ride it easy

Riding the Road King Classic through the rolling countryside near Harley-Davidson's headquarters in Milwaukee, it was easy to get caught up in the American motorcycling legend, *writes Roland Brown*.

The sun was shining, the big V-twin engine was beating gently, the empty road stretched towards the horizon. Suddenly the phrase "freedom of the open road", didn't seem quite such a cliche.

That freewheeling, uniquely American appeal has been the key to the Milwaukee firm's success. In America almost all Harleys have a waiting list of more than a year — nearer two for the most popular. This year's Road King Classic and Sportster 1200 Sport are likely to come into that category although each is a modified version of an existing bike.

The Classic is a development of the Road King, which like most models highlights Harley's ability to blend a traditional look and feel with modern reliability and, to a lesser extent, performance. The Road King features a big shiny headlight, all-enveloping mudguards, plus 1,340cc of trademark aircooled V-twin engine. To this, the Classic adds period touches — white-wall tyres, spoked wheels and "slash-cut" silencers.

Harley's pushrod-operated engine is unchanged, apart from a revised clutch whose lighter action is welcome. Speed is never a main Harley attraction, but the Road King accelerated fairly well for a hefty bike, and felt smooth and unstressed at 70mph.

Handling was ponderous, but the Classic's stability and laid-back feel made for a pleasant ride at the gentle pace that the bike encouraged, and the windscreen, footboards and thick seat combined to give a fair degree of comfort. For what is essentially a rolling piece of nostalgia, the Road King Classic is a capable bike that would have been fun for a week's relaxed touring in the Midwest.

Judging by its name, you wouldn't expect a remotely relaxed ride from the Sportster 1200 Sport, Harley's self-proclaimed high-performance model. In reality it's nothing of the kind. The original 110mph Sportster of 1957 was a fast machine, but its performance changed little subsequently, and has long been a cruiser like all the rest.

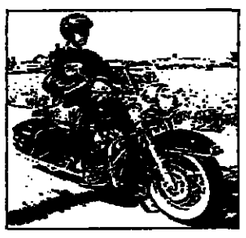
That said, the 1200 Sport is the quickest yet. Twin spark plugs in each cylinder head, along with new camshafts and a modified exhaust, increase the Sportster's output. Harley does not quote power figures, but like the Road King the Sportster produces about 50bhp.

The original Sportster Sport was the first Harley to have adjustable suspension, powerful brakes and sticky tyres. Those parts remain, as does the Sport's un-Harley-like enthusiasm for reasonably fast cornering.

This latest Sport is quicker off the line too, pulling from low revs with enough force to make you hold on tight. But the Sportster motor lacks the Road King's rubber mounting, and by 4,000rpm — less than 70mph in top gear — has begun shaking painfully through its handlebars. The Sportster would be fun in town but I wouldn't want to have to ride one at speed for long.

At least British Harley fans now have the opportunity to find out for themselves. Harley's drive for European sales means that either model can be supplied a few weeks after ordering.

### CLASSIC



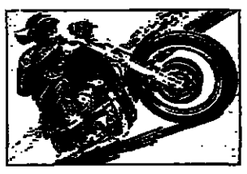
**Engine:** 45-degree V-twin, 4-valve, 1340cc produces 50bhp at 5,000rpm.

**Transmission:** Five-speed gearbox. Belt final drive.

**Performance:** Max speed 105mph, 0-60mph in 5.8 seconds.

**Price:** £12,995 on the road (£100 extra for the aniversary paint scheme).

### SPORTSTER



**Engine:** 45-degree V-twin, 4-valve, 1200cc produces 50bhp at 5500rpm.

**Transmission:** Five-speed gearbox. Belt final drive.

**Performance:** Max speed 110mph, 0-60mph in 5.2 seconds.

**Price:** £6,995 on the road

**Insurance group:** 14 (with Norwich Union).

# Reborn Brough is even more superior

**John Naish on a legend rejuvenated by two pensioners**



Brough fan: T. E. Lawrence

Why buy a high-tech modern superbike when you can build yourself an uprated version of a British ton-up legend? That's the question Ken Middleditch asked himself before creating the first complete new Brough Superior to be made in Britain for more than 50 years.

The last of the classic bikes rolled off the production line in 1940, but Ken, 72, has recreated a 1927 Pendine SS100 model at his workshop near Poole, Dorset — thanks to another senior citizen, Alex Card, who owns the original copyrights and now manufactures improved versions of the engine and frame.

Lawrence of Arabia was the most famous devotee of George Brough's machines. He owned seven in a row before crashing one fatally in 1935 at Bovington, Dorset, just a few miles from Ken's workshop.

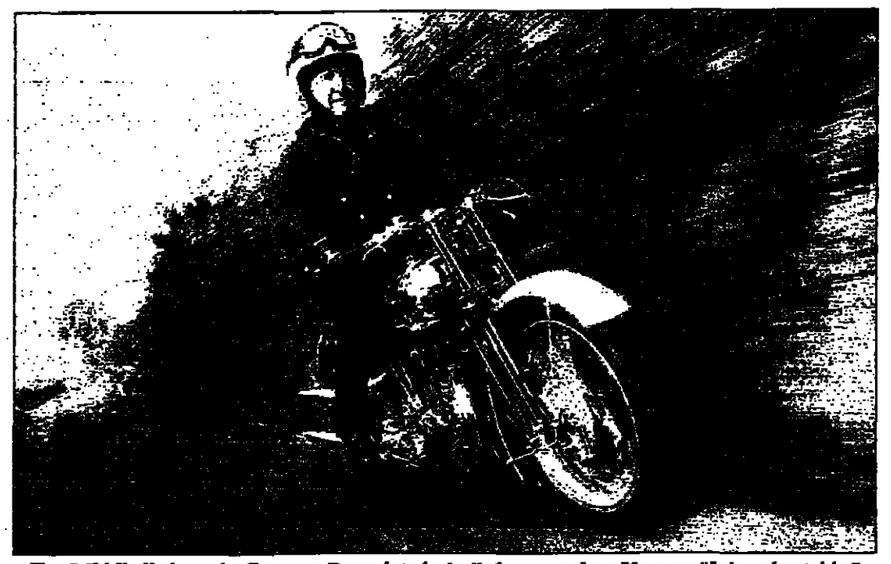
Brough combined his own frames with other makers' engines to produce fast, exclusive and expensive machines. They set numerous speed records in the Twenties and Thirties and proved a success on the racetracks. The SS100 was the most famous Brough Superior, although fewer than 400 were built.

Ken, a former speedway rider who rode for England and captained the local Poole team before retiring from the sport in 1961, fitted Alex's improved 1,000cc J. A. Prestwich (JAP) V-twin engine, Brough Superior frame and gearbox together with hand-made cycle parts to produce the new Brough, which he has christened the SS120.

"I have always loved the look and performance of the JAP engine," says Ken. "Coupled with the sleekness of the Brough it is an unbeatable combination. Brough had a magical touch with bikes: he was a fantastic engineer and developed an intuitive feel for what made a good one. When you crank up a Brough on the open road it is wonderful."

Now at the end of his two-year project, he added: "This Brough is not an antique or a replica, it is a new motorcycle and some of the purists may raise their eyebrows a bit.

"I have owned many original Broughs, but the new engine on this one is far better," he adds. "The basic design is 70 years old but I will take my Brough over a modern bike any day of the week, and I am delighted with it."



Ken Middleditch on the first new Brough to be built for more than 50 years: "It is unbeatable."

So far, he reports, he has not braved too many miles with the bike on Britain's winter roads. "I have not gone over 70mph on it, but wherever I have stopped, it has proved to be quite a conversation piece."

Alex, meanwhile, who runs Carmac Developments with his son in Tonbridge, Kent, has been building new parts for Brough Superiors for the past ten years. Many of the parts are bought by loving restorers of original machines, which currently fetch high prices on the motorcycling market.

But Alex has developed a host of modern improvements to the original design, which include casting the cylinders from lightweight aluminium instead of iron. These are then lined with low-friction ceramic material — something Japanese superbike builders have only recently started doing to their own sports machines.

Alex has built 11 of his improved 55bhp JAP engines so far, several of which have been used to power vintage Morgan three-wheeler sports cars — as they had been in the Thirties. Fitted to the Brough Superior, they have a top speed of 120mph through the motorcycle's three-speed Sturmey Archer gearbox, which is a slight improvement on the original off-the-shelf machine.

In its heyday, the Brough Superior was a true superbike, and at £170 new, it cost as much as a decent house. "That kind of money would only buy you a front wheel hub nowadays," says 69-year-old Alex, who estimates that building a new Brough Superior can cost up to £35,000.

But that has not deterred him from starting a project to create Britain's second complete new Brough motorcycle — this time for himself: "It will be the ultimate state-of-the-art updated design," says Alex, who originally owned Broughs as ride-to-work machines in the Forties and Fifties.

"If someone else wants one, I will build it for them, but really this business has been a labour of love from the word go," he adds. "I am a self-taught engineer, and I have never made proper money out of the company. Although a new engine will sell for £10,000, that's basically cost price. In fact, I think I lose money on the deal."

## ALFA ROMEO

RZ conv., 17,000 kms, P reg, PSH, CD, alarm, black, ashtrays, Nbr. £26,500. 01489 881158.

## AMERICAN CARS

CHEVROLET Camaro. New send. 3.7 V6. Many extras. Fabulous spec. £17,950. 01959 542808

## ASTON MARTIN

DB7 Auto, May 95, R reg, Club turn Grn/ Cream hide, 42,000 mls, FSH, £59,000. Tel: 01937 586700 (office).

VIRAGE Cumberland Grey with Mushroom. 23K, FAMSH, Manual. 1990 G. £27,500. Excellent condition. Tel:01737 277197

VOLANTE DB7, '96, auto, 5, 000 miles, Moonlit Blue/ Magnolia hide, p/p'd Blue, sports exhaust, CD, air serv. £76,000. Tel: 0410 660312 or 0171 637 0322

## AUDI AUTHORISED DEALERS

A4 2.8 Avant 97P Ascotte Blue/Ecru Leather, Roof Rails, Walnut Trim, Sports St Wheels, Sports Suspension, Competition Alloys. Superb! 9,000 miles £26,850 Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144

## AUDI

A4 1.9 TDI, 98N, saloon, 47,000 miles, FASH, 10 month VED, 10CD, Met Green/ Grey int, alloys, mint condition. £15,500. Tel: 01926 420969

A6 S6 2.2 Quattro, 'M'-reg, Top Spec inc Leather, Air con & 5 speed. Full Audi History. 60,000 miles, 1 owner £23,495. 01494 462456/0370 889931 T

## AUDI WANTED

Franklin

We require the very best high specification Audis. Please telephone Simon Fennell for an enthusiastic response.

01483 272 451 or 0836 52 55 52

A Sytner Company

## AUDI

A6 Quattro '96 M, 25,000 mls, dark blue, grey int, climate, red/cass, 10 stack CD, £18,495. 0973 306248 (mob.) London.

## IVER VILLAGE CARS

Quality Audi Specialist

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 94 (M) | S2 Estate Panther Black, air/con, leather, alloys, ezr | £21,995 |
| 95 (N) | A4 2.6 Quattro Aqua, blue, climate, ezr, alloys | £19,995 |
| 96 (P) | A6 TDI SE 149 BHP Quattro Est Silver, ezr rr, 7 sts, alloys, ezr | £19,795 |
| 94 (M) | S6 Estate Panther black, f/spd, climate, ezr | £18,995 |
| 95 (N) | Coupe 2.6 Auto Ruby red, air/con, ezr | £17,995 |
| 95 (N) | S2 Coupe Indigo blue, air/con, blue alloys | £16,995 |
| 95 (N) | A4T Sport Pearl blue, ezr, alloys, c/w | £16,995 |
| 95 (M) | A6 2.5 Sx Auto Quattro grey, climate | £16,995 |
| 95 (N) | A4 2.6 SE Quattro, ezr, alloys | £15,995 |
| 95 (N) | Coupe 2.8E Ruby red, ezr, l/leather, alloys | £14,995 |
| 94 (L) | Coupe 2.6E Auto Aqua, air/con, ezr, alloys | £14,495 |
| 95 (N) | A4 1.9 TDI SE Volcano, climate, alloys | £13,995 |
| 91 (J) | S2 Coupe Red, air/con,ezr, 1/2 ltht | £13,995 |
| 95 (N) | UR Quattro Turbo Coupe Lagun blue, black ltht, ezr | £13,995 |
| 95 (N) | Coupe 2.0E E Velvet blue, ezr, alloys | £13,495 |
| 95 (L) | S4Model Coupe 2.8E Auto Laser red, alloys, sunroo | £12,995 |
| 95 (N) | Coupe 2.0 16V Ruby red, alloys, abs, c/w | £11,995 |
| 93 (K) | 100 2.6E Auto Estate Silver, air/con, ezr | £10,995 |
| 92 (K) | UR Quattro Turbo White, sunroof | £10,995 |
| 91 (J) | Coupe 2.0L E 16V Black, ezr, alloys | £10,495 |
| 91 (K) | 100 2.6E Auto Estate Blue pearl, ezr, rr alloys | £7,995 |
| 90 (G) | 90 20V Cayenne pearl, alloys, ezr, ew | £5,995 |

IVER, BUCKS.
TEL.01753 650909 / FAX.01753 651019

## AUDI AUTHORISED DEALERS

Franklin Audi ... the forecast is quattro

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 95M | RS2 4WD ★★★★★ | 24T | £41,650 | 97P | A6 2.8 quattro ★★ |
| 97R | A8 4.2 quattro SPORT ★★★★★ | 6T | £49,000 | 97P | A4 2.8 quattro Avant ★★★★★ |
| 96N | A8 3.7 SPORT ★★★★★ | 21T | £37,650 | 97P | A4 2.8 quattro ★★★ |
| 96P | A6 2.8 quattro AUTO ★★★ | 12T | £34,500 | 97P | S6 4WD ★★★★ |
| 95M | A6 2.8 quattro AUTO ★★★ | 53T | £18,000 | 95M | Cabriolet 2.6E AUTO ★★★ |

★★ENHANCED SPEC ★★★ LEATHER DR AIR ★★★★ LEATHER 2ND AIR ★★★★★ TOTAL SPEC

Another 42 vehicles in stock

OPEN 7 DAYS SUNDAY 10-4

Tel 0113 204 1020

EVES:0410 133142, 0370 380116

A Sytner Company

## Dovercourt Audi

Battersea

97P Audi A4 quattro TDi, 3,000 miles, Competition Alloys, Sports Seats, Quartz Grey
92J Audi 2.3 Auto Cabriolet, 39,000 miles, Red
97P Audi A4 1.8 Turbo Sport, Ming Blue, 8,000 miles, Leather, CC, Alarm, CD, Arm Rest
95M Audi A4 1.8 SE, Emerald Green, 29,000 miles.
95M Audi Cabriolet 2.0 E, Ming Blue, 41,000 miles, Tan Leather, 1 Owner, FSH
95M Audi Coupe S2, Diamond Black, 22,000 miles, Black Leather, 1 Owner, FSH
96P Audi A4 1.8 SE Auto, Aluminium Silver, 3,500 miles, Remote locking and Walnut Trim
97P Audi A3 1.8 Sport, Black, 11,000 miles, 1 Owner
54L Audi 100 2.0E Est, Tornado Red, 43,000 miles, Alloys, Sunroof
94M Audi 80 2.0 16V Estate SE, Indigo, 18,500 miles, 1 Owner
94L Audi 80 2.6E Auto Est., Indigo, 42,000 miles, Walnut Trim
94L Audi 80 2.0E Saloon, Ruby Red, 31,000 miles, Sunroof

0171 924 5544
98 York Road
Battersea, London

St. Johns Wood

97P Audi A8 quattro Sport, Emerald, 7,000 miles
97P Audi A8 quattro, Ruby, 13,000 miles
97R Audi A8 2.8 Sport, Ming, 6,000 miles
97P Audi Cabriolet 2.6, Ming, 2,000 miles
97P Audi Cabriolet 2.6, Cactus, 4,000 miles
97P Audi A6 2.4 SE, Tiptronic Racing, 6,000 miles
97R Audi A4 2.8 quattro, Aluminium, 8,000 miles
97P Audi A4 2.6 SE Avant, Cactus, 8,000 miles
97P Audi A4 1.8T, Aluminium, 14,000 miles
97P Audi A4 1.8 SE Avant, Ming, 8,000 miles
97P Audi A3 1.8 T Sport, Laser, 6,000 miles
97P Audi A3 1.6, Ming, 6,000 miles

Approved Used Cars



0171 286 5000
30 St. Johns Wood Road
London

## BMW

328i Coupe, M reg, 30k mls, superior cond, Met Calypso Red, auto, elec s/roof, immobilisers, service record, 1 owner. £19,200. Tel:01189 403224.

### BMW 530i A

93K, Granite silver, grey leather, 78,000 miles, FBMWSH, hands free carphone, 12 CD stacker, air conditioning. Immaculate. £14,900 01948 662629#(day) 01829 732164(eve)

318i coupe, '96 P, manual, Boston green, Full colour body kit + bellypan, Front fog lights, ESR, Thatcham alarm, remote locking, removable CD, 7,800 mls, 19" mos wty. £17,450. 0171 894 7702 (W) or 07771 527981.

318IS 1995, Montreal Blue, FSH, Ex. spec, 68K exam inc. Grey Nap, ESR, CD, BMW alarm. £4 cond. £14,000. 01932 867783

### NEW 740i

1995 Chairman car. Perfect BMW History. 135,000 careful miles, £10,000 of extras, double glazing, top Hi Fi, blinds, ADC, EDC, 2 phones, X spoke alloy wheels. Navara + full comfort + memory. No time wasters please. No agents. £19,750.

01253 780099

### 328I CONVERTIBLE

auto, 1993K, Montreal Blue, Light Grey leather with Blue piping, factory colour coded, sports seats, double spoke alloys, Sony rad/CD, BMW hi-fi speaker system, central locking, el. micro filter, just rotated w/s, heated mirrors and locks, complete, increased power supply, 40,000 miles, FBMWSH, 1 owner, immaculate. £15,950 ono.

Tel: 01732 460515 or 0468 885544

### BMW 1998 U.K Specifications

EURO CONTINENTAL CARS

Transcendour Savings On Z3 3 Series Coupe/ Cabriolet

5 Series Saloon/ Touring

Supplied With Manufacturers Warranty. Why Pay More ?

Please Call For More Information

Tel: 01703 47 02 08
Fax: 01703 47 17 07

We Offer Transeuropean Finance Deals Part Exchange Also Welcome

525 TDS SE blue/grey, Intent Mags, May 96, PSH, 12,500 mls. £26,500 ONO. 0118 972 1073 (W)/ 0831 134095.

535 Auto P-Reg Arctic silver, black hide, A/C, ESR, RMS, CD, 26K mls, MOT, as new. £16,500. 01163 302967 (DX) 870557 (W).

528i Aegean silver, multi-spoke alloys, leather, CD, spare wheel, elec glass sunroof, 26k, £23,725. 01233 660455 24 hrs

540i auto March 97, 12K miles, fantastic spec over £12K extras, £40,000. Tel: 0113 2031200(office)

740i SE Auto 1992, Mercedes blue, silver leather, air con, S/roof, alloys, ESR, new MOT, sd cond. £5,995 ono. 01903 240248 or 0467 456780

850i Auto 92, L/blue, Grey hide, 61K, FBMWSH, CD, A/C, Sunroof Cond. £27,500. 0467 333765

Z3 2.8, S/free/ black leather, cd, 1,000 miles, £21,000 ono. Tel: 01962 716102/01926 292233

### Z3 2.8i 97'

97 Boston Green, 3,500kms. Rare import, Left Hand Drive, every optional extra with leather interior (green hide)

£30,000 no offers

0171 878 7005

## AUDI APPROVED

### Scotts Audi

Audi

95M Audi RS2 Avant. RS Blue. leather/alcantara recaro seats, aircon. abs. a/bag. traction. s/roof, 315 BHP, 17" carrera cup alloys. 10 stack cd. 39,180mls £41,995

96N Audi A8 4.2 quattro Tip. Ragusa Green. ecm leather, front & rear seat pack, airbags, cruise, rear blind, p/s/roof, tipu load, r/locks, h/l/w, 10cd, comp alloys, 28,380mls £36,995

96N Audi A8 3.7 Sport Tip. Emerald Green. anthracite leather s/seats, climate control, e/seat pack, cruise, rear blind, bose, h/l/wash, r/locks. solar roof, 10 stack cd, 18" alloy wheels. 20,900mls £34,995

97R Audi 2.6E Auto Convertible. Aluminium Silver, full leather e/seats, blue p/hood, walnut, ew x4, r/locks, edm airbag. 17" 10 spoke a/w, 4,000 mls £31,995

97F Audi 2.6E Convertible. Ming Blue, blue hood, blue leather/cloth, sports seats, abs, pas, c/locking, e/w x4, immobiliser, 10 spoke alloys. 8,960mls £25,995

97P Audi A4 1.9TDI quattro Avant. Blue Pearl, aqua s/seats, climate control, abs, traction, sports a/bag wheel, f/armrest, e/windows, obc, edm, t/rails, a/w, 9,300 mls £24,995

97P Audi A4 T Sport. Cactus Green, sports seats, climate control, abs, a/sic, airbag, obc, remote locks, e/w, cruise, e/d/m, competition alloys, 7,600mls £22,995

97R Audi A4 1.9TDI SE 110 Automatic. Blue Pearl. climate. abs. pas. airbag. asc. f/armrest. r/locks. ew. lumbar. obc. immobiliser. alloy wheels. 5,500mls £POA

96P Audi A4 1.8SE Auto Avant. Emerald Green, anthracite trim, climate control, abs, airbag, front armrest, ew, walnut, c/locking, lumbar adjusters, aw, 10,600mls £21,995

97P Audi A3 1.8SE. Cactus Green. onyx leather. climate control. traction. f/armrest. airbags. pas. e/windows. remote locks. abs. edm. a/s/column. alloy wheels. 8,960mls 21,995

97P Audi A3 1.8SE. Aluminium Silver, onyx leather, climate control, traction, a/bags, p/s/roof, f/lamps, remote locks, e/windows, abs, edm, a/s/column, immobiliser, comp alloy wheels, 14,300 mls £21,995

97P Audi A3 1.8 Sport. Aluminium Silver. onyx/scarlet sport seats. abs. traction. asc. airbags. p/s/roof. r/locks. edm. f/armrest. alloy wheels. 9,760mls £18,995

97P Audi A4 1.8SE. Ming Blue. aqua upholstery. climate control. pas. abs. airbag. c/t/gauge. ew. cdl. e/d/mirrors. tints. immobiliser. alloy wheels. 6,960mls £18,995

92J Audi S2 Coupe. Panther Black. black knappa leather. air con. abs. traction. pas. electric sun roof. h/l/washers. e/windows. edm. obc. alloys. 40,600mls £17,995

OTHER MAKES

95N Ferrari F355 Spider. Giallo Yellow. black leather. air conditioning. power hood. e/seats. airbag. active ride. 18" alloy wheels. 10,680kms £69,995

97R Porsche 911 Carrera S Tip "S" Coupe. Ocean Blue. full leather. air con. twin e/seats. airbags. e/roof. 10spkr dsp & rds audio. 6cd. g/h/screen. 18" hollow technology wheels. 165mls £69,995

97R Porsche Boxster Roadster. Arctic silver, black leather, climate control, htr pack, hard top, airbag, ew, cdx1, alarm, 17" alloy wheels. 1,050mls £45,995

97R Mercedes Benz CLK 230 Sport. Brilliant Silver. leather. climate control. e/seats x2. e/s/roof. asr. 4x a/bags. r/blind. parktronic. cruise. isv. cd. alloy wheels. total specification. 640mls £45,495

96P Mercedes Benz 230 SLK Kompressor. Brilliant Silver, black leather s/seats. aircon. abs. 4x a/bags. cruise. traction. cat 1 alarm. alloys. 12,600mls £35,995

0171 730 2131
0171 495 0000

Sloane Square & Berkeley Square

## DRIVING TUITION

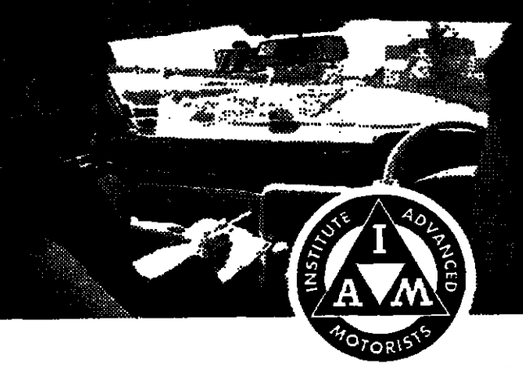
# What price safety?

Did you know that you can become an advanced driver for just £42? You will benefit from greater skill, safety and confidence on the roads, with lower insurance costs and the many other advantages of IAM membership.

£42

Advanced driving guidance is also available from over 200 Local Groups throughout the UK which offer FREE Observed runs for drivers who join as Group associate members. Can you really afford not to do it?

For further information complete the coupon and return Freepost or visit the IAM Web Site: www.iam.org.uk



Reg. Charity No. 249002

INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS
Freepost, Licence No. SW1965, 359 Chiswick High Rd., London, W4 4BR.
Tel: 0181-994 4403 (24hr Answering) Fax: 0181-994 9249

Name
Address
Post Code

POSTAGE STAMP NEEDED

THE TIMES 1-98

## BMW WANTED

540 Touring. Any mileage. Full spec. BMW History. Private Buyer. Associate:01371 874026#

Fairfield require 3 Series all models + 5 Series Autos with FSH. Call Tony Dean 0589 304098/ 01702 420111.

HIGH Mileage BMW's Wanted. We Collect. Cash Waiting. 01227 277349, 0860 641639 T

WANTED Wanted, 850 840 750 M3 M5 M6 etc, any mileage! 01628 660413 / 0831 122911

### BMW Z3 1.9

High Spec, LHD
23T, £18,850

Sytnerdirect

0115 924 1144

## BMW WANTED

### Sytner

We require the very best high specification, low mileage BMWs and Alpinas. Please telephone Adrian Hill for an enthusiastic response.

01206 231 540 or 0385 737 969

## CONTRACT HIRE

### BISHOPSGATE

Independent Asset Finance & Leasing Specialists

We can arrange the following types of funding for your vehicle:

- Hire Purchase
- Lease Purchase
- Personal Contract Purchase
- Balanced Payments
- Variable Rate
- Finance Leasing
- Operating Leasing
- Contract Hire

EG: 98 Golf 1.8 GTI on Personal Contract Purchase for the private individual: APR: 12.0%

Payment Profile:
Deposit: £850.68
33 payments of: £283.56
1 final instalment of: £8942.00
(Includes full maintenance)

Offers available on all makes and models. Please telephone for more information.

LONDON IPSWICH
Tel: 0171 283 7799 Tel: 01473 833733

*Office hours: Monday-Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm*

## BOATING & YACHTING

CONVERTED Trawler 21 metres long, now a luxury yacht, must be sold to Sell/avail. full facilities, all cabins. £225,000 for a quick sale, can be delivered. Tel +44 (0)113 242 5811. Fax +44 (0)113 245 7003.

## CLASSIC CARS

CLASSIC 380 SL, Y reg, VGC, 90,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH, £14,250ono. Tel/Fax before 6 pm 0171 5228219

## CLASSIC CARS

S-TYPE CENTRE Buying or selling. 50 S- Types in Stock, Specials, Sovereigns with Pack available. Call 01827 872447 (Attleborough).

JENSEN 541S 1961, £9,000 miles, JOC rates welcome, £9,700. Tel: 01245 232774

## CONTRACT HIRE

### AMAZING OFFERS FOR BUSINESS USERS

C.Hire - Lease - HP

| | C.Hire P.M/m |
|---|---|
| Immediate Delivery | |
| New BMW 318i Adv Mk nc | 201.75 |
| New 320 Coupe | 445.70 |
| New BMW Z3 1.9 Sdrv (Feb) | 332.00 |
| New Ford Explorer - ptc nc | 365.00 |
| New Merc E240 V6 Elegance Auto | 387.50 |
| New Merc E240 V6 Elegance Auto | 382.50 |
| New Renault Megane Coupe | 175.00 |

AMT 0171 2224365 or 0113 2597797 Fax 0113 2597244

## FERRARI AUTHORISED

### PASSIONE PER LA PERFEZIONE

LIMITED EDITION

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 550 F40 | ST | £157,000 |

2+2 12 CYLINDER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 55P 456GT | 1T | P.P.O.A. |
| 55P 456GT AUTO | 5T | £149,000 |
| 55P 456GT AUTO | 9T | £145,000 |
| 55M 456GT | 5T | £104,000 |
| 54L 456GT | 4T | £79,000 |

12 CYLINDER

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 97P F512M | 700M's | £115,000 |
| 91J TESTAROSSA | 5T | £95,000 |
| 91H TESTAROSSA | 5T | £60,000 |
| 89F TESTAROSSA | 5T | £54,000 |

F355

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 97P F355 SPIDER | 2T | £132,000 |
| 96P F355 | 5T | £89,000 |
| 96P F355 GTS | 7T | £93,000 |
| 95M F355 GTS | 6T | £81,500 |
| 95M F355 | 14T | £83,250 |

348

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 94M 348 SPIDER | 16T | £63,500 |
| 94M 348 GTB (Assetto) | 7T | £65,000 |
| 94L 348TS | 4T | £61,000 |
| 93L 348TS | 16T | £58,500 |
| 90J 348TS | 2T | £55,000 |
| 91J 348TS | 7T | £55,500 |
| 91G 348TS | 28T | £45,500 |

MONDIAL

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 89G MONDIAL T CAB 4T | | £42,000 |

01509 23 22 55

Graypaul

A Sytner Company

## FERRARI

348 TB LHD, 1990, Rosso/ Blk hide, AC, immac, 22km, £31,950. Tel: 01986 893422.

355 May 96, Rosso/Magnolia, Virtually brand new. Only 1500 miles. £92,000. 01892 654658

355 SPIDER 1997 P, Rosso Corsa, 1,900 miles, perfect, £101,500. Tel: 0161 2340487 (day) 0370 888848 (anytime)

## FIAT

COUPE 20V Turbo, 97E, Sprint blue, air con, htr, 4,800 miles. £22,000 ono. 01630 423840(h)/ 01482 642600(w)

### COUPE 20V TURBO.

1997 P, 22K miles, PFSH. Air con. CD. £18,500.

Tel: 01844 217401 (w) 0850 085643 (m)

## FIAT

MASSIVE Savings on Brand New Fiats for private and company Buyers. 01480 812239 T

WANTAGE Savings on Brand New Fiats for Private Buyers. Tel: 0171 603 6969 T.

## FORD

APPROXIMATELY 30 Scorpio's in stock at only a few to go. Ghia 2.0 estate, 95N, pale black, 69,976. Ultima 2.3, 4 door, auto, P reg, choice of petrol, blue, estate, super spec, from £15,995. Ultima 2.3 estate auto, 97T, 4k subscription, £16,995. Ghia 2.9, 24V estate, auto, P reg, 10k mls, air con, alloys etc. £16,495. Ultima 2.9 24V estate, auto, P reg, 11k mls, £14,495. Ultima 2.9 24V estate, auto, P reg, pristine black, leather, 11k mls, £20,995. For all your new replacements phone 01530 560056 / 01530 814440 Sun.

Ford cars recently new from Scorpio to Fiesta. Lowest prices! 01865 462767/01783 362500

GALAXY 2.3 GLX, 7 seats, 97T, crystal white, 3,500 miles, air con, £16,500. Tel: 01530 560056 T

KA's 97 (R) Silver/Electric Cmrn, 1,500 miles 9 months warranty £7,995. 01403 782587.

NEW Shape Mondeo 2.0 Ghia estate, 96P, diamond white, air con, £12,995. Tel: 01530 560056 T

NEW Shape Mondeo 2.5 24V Ghia, 5 door, 97R, state blue, air con, 4k mls, £14,500. Tel: 01530 560056 T

PROBE 2.0 16V, 97T, Boysen/ berry, elec s/r, centre con, 4 alloy, only £13,500. Tel: 01530 560056 T

PUMA 1997 R reg, 4k mls, s/s, special plate, List price. 01672 520933/ 0860 526952 T.

### BRAND NEW

Pumas, Fiestas, Escorts & galaxys up to £4,000 off main dealer prices

Access Car Consultants Ltd
0181 6601520

## FOUR WHEEL DRIVE WANTED

1988 1995 Top prices paid for all low mileage 4x4's. Main Valley Motor Group 01372 745090.

## JAGUAR & DAIMLER

DAIMLER Double Six blue-cream lthr, director's car, F reg, 80K Mls, FBHS, A/C, auto. Superb car. £7,850. 01702 585891.

XJ6 4.0, 92K, Auto, 72k mls, Wmr Blue/Grey hide, FBHS, TNT, ESR, 1 Pvte own, 12mth Tax & MOT, VGC. £12,500 or 1st reasonable offer. 0181 4681818

XJ6 3.2S auto, 1994 L, Gun metal with Grey leather, ext. ABS, PAS, FBHS, 17 ratio MoT, 1 private owner, ex used, 46k miles. £15,500. 01494 866018.

XJR 4.0 S'charged, Feb '96, Carnival Red, Cream leather, CD, Sun roof, FBSH, 3 yr factory warranty, 1 lady owner, Mint condition. 31K. £33,000. Tel:01284 825164

XJR Supercharged '98 M reg, 36,000 mls, FBSH, carnival red/blk, immaculate condition. £30,500. 01623 871113.

XJR V8 Supercharger. High spec, 2700 mls, no immature, List price. 01703 766764.

XJS coupe, 4.0, auto, '94 L, Kingfisher blue, 37,000 mls, 1 private owner, FBSH, A/C, lthr, s/wheels, CD, immac. £19,500. 0161 944 0894/0802 918877.

### XJR

1995 M, Sapphire/ Cream leather. Full Jaguar service history. 34,000 miles. Jaguar warranty. Recent service. Sun roof, other extras. £28,950.

Tel: 01628 850666 Daytime
Tel: 01628 477184
Eves and Weekends
Private sale

## MOTORS

### weissenfels

FOR MAXIMUM GRIP WHEN IT'S MOST NEEDED...

NATIONWIDE SALES AND RENTALS

Tel: 01732 884408

Exchange Scheme

Snowchains Borough Green Sevenoaks Kent TN15 8DG

## MOTORS

### TOP PRICES PAID

FOR LUXURY WRISTWATCHES

We urgently need to buy
• ROLEX • PATEK PHILIPPE • CARTIER
• AUDEMARS • PIAGET • BREGUET • VACHERON
• JAEGER (REVERSO) • BREITLING • BULGARI

Phone now, call in personally or send your wristwatch by registered mail. Payment by return.

*'Our reputation is your Guarantee of Satisfaction'*

David Duggan
01714911362 0836 726260

## BMW AUTHORISED DEALERS

### Cotswold

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 95N | 840 CIA Arctic Grey, Bolted X-Spokes, 32K | £40,995 |
| 96N | 740i A Calypso Red, C/Seats, D/Glazing +++, 10K | £38,995 |
| 96N | 728i A Orient Blue/Sand Beige Leather, 12K | £29,995 |
| 95N | 528i SE Arctic Silver, A/C, Spoke Alloys, 12K | £31,495 |
| 95N | 525i ASE Oxford Green, Alloys, ESR, F/Lights, 43K | £18,995 |
| 95M | 525i SE Tour Maldives Blue, Alloys, ESR, 55K | £17,495 |
| 96N | 520i SE Tour Oxford Green, Alloys, A/C, 30K | £19,995 |
| 96N | M3 Conv Cosmos Black, HiFi Speakers, 12K | £39,995 |
| 97P | 328i Sport Montreal Blue, Air Con, Lthr, 8K | £29,995 |
| 96N | 328i Sport Bright Red, 1/2 Lthr, ESR, 36K | £24,995 |
| 95N | 328i A Coupe Montreal Blue, A/C, ESR, C/Lthr, 9K | £23,995 |
| 96N | 328i A Tour Cosmos Black, ESR, F/Cd, 20K | £24,995 |
| 96P | 328i Tour Boston Green, ESR, Alloys, 8K | £25,995 |
| 96P | 323i A Coupe Arctic Grey, ESR, 16K | £24,995 |
| 95N | 320i SE Arctic Grey, ESR, Alloys, F/Lights, 19K | £17,995 |
| 96N | 320i SE Jet Black, ESR, Alloys, Air Con, 8K | £19,495 |
| 95M | 318TI Boston Green, ESR, Alloys, F/Lights, 16K | £15,495 |
| 94M | 318 Conv Dark Blue, Power Hood, F/Cd, 54K | £18,995 |
| 96P | 318i Cosmos Black, ESR, Air Con, Alloys, 21K | £17,995 |
| 95N | 316i Comp Nepal Silver, 10K | £13,995 |

Over 45 Used Cars Available

Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire

Telephone: 01242 578838

Open 7 days a week Sunday 10.00am - 4.00pm

### Please part-exchange!

At Sytner direct our biggest problem isn't selling cars, it's finding them! With Porsche, Range Rover, Mercedes, Ferrari and Audi within the Group it's not just special BMWs we require. In fact, at Sytner the best deal is the part-exchange deal.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 98K | 850Ci A Sports | 1T | £35,000 | 96P | 525i SE M Sport |
| 97R | 840i A Sport Seat | 6T | £51,000 | 96P | 528i SE Good Spec |
| 97R | 840i A Sport Seat | 6T | £50,000 | 96N | 528i A SE Auto |
| 96P | 840Ci A 4.4 Sports | 6T | £49,850 | 96P | 525 TDS SE Good Spec |
| 96N | 840Ci A Sports | 6T | £41,000 | 97P | 520i FSH, CD |
| 96P | 750i A Sports | 1T | £49,500 | Alpina | |
| 97R | 740i A Touring | 6T | £53,500 | 96N | Z3 1.9 i Roadster Sport |
| 97P | 740i A TV, Nav | 6T | £51,850 | 97R | M3 Evo Conv Individual Spec |
| 96P | 740i A TV, Sports | 1T | £39,850 | 96N | M3 Evo Conv Exc Spec |
| 96N | 740i A TV, BMW Pack | 1T | £39,850 | 95N | M3 Conv (1 Owner, Full BMW Hist |
| 96N | 740i A TV, Sports, Tan Hide | 6T | £34,000 | 94L | M3 Conv Sunroof |
| 95M | 740i A Touring, Spec | 6T | £30,850 | 93K | M3 Evo Coupe Nav, Spec 2/3 Yrs |
| 95M | 740i A TV, Sports, Nav | 6T | £29,950 | 96N | M3 Evo Coupe Air Locking |
| 94M | 740i A Sports Spec | 6T | £27,950 | 93L | M3 Coupe Good Spec |
| 94M | 740i A Classic, Sports | 6T | £24,850 | 97R | M3 Evo 400 Hi Spec |
| 94L | 740i A Auto | 4T | £20,850 | 96P | M3 Evo 400, Auto, Exp |
| 97R | 735i A TV, Auto, Air | 6T | £39,850 | 96P | 328i A Conv Hard Top |
| 96M | 730i A Touring, Spec | 6T | £29,850 | 96P | 328i Coupe Good Spec |
| 97P | 728i A TV, ESR, Sports | 6T | £24,000 | 96M | 328i A Conv Manual, Spec |
| 97P | 728i A Good Spec | 6T | £23,750 | 96P | 328i Coupe Good Spec |
| 88F | M535i CSI Beauty | 1T | £15,500 | 96N | 328i A Tour Leather, Auto |
| 95N | M5 SE Sunroof | 1T | £33,500 | 95M | 328i A SE Leather, Alloys |
| 93L | M5 3.8 Auto, Spec, P/Spec | 4T | £24,750 | 95M | 325i A Conv High Spec |
| 97P | 540i Touring, Spec | 6T | £42,500 | 93L | 325i Conv S Spec, Auto |
| 92L | 530i A Tour Leather, Auto | 6T | £21,000 | 94L | 325i SE Spec, Special Paint |
| 97R | 523i Steptronic High Spec | 6T | £44,850 | 97J | 325i SE Good Spec |
| 97P | 520i A SE Good Spec | 6T | £24,700 | 94M | 318i S Coupe Individual, Spec |
| 97R | 328i SE Tour Spec, CD | 6T | £25,000 | 97R | 318i SE Tour Spec |

Above a selection, a further 200 cars available.

Sytnerdirect
0115 924 1144

Approved Used Cars

### ALPINA



97R B3 3.2 Touring Switchtronic. Massive Spec + special leather interior. The ultimate in practical, performance, luxury driving. 2T £48,500

97R B10 Switchtronic. Special Spec 8T £68,000

97P B10 Switchtronic. Highly Distinctive Choice of 2 6T £65,000

97P B3 3.2 Coupe Switchtronic. Total Spec 6T £45,000

95M B3 3.0 Coupe Switchtronic. High Spec 2ST £36,000

95M B3 3.0 Coupe Switchtronic. Excellent Spec + Leather, Air 2TT £35,500

95M B3 3.0 Coupe Switchtronic. Leather, Air 3ZT £34,500

Demonstrators available now
B12 5.7 – 7 Series 387BHP
6.2 sec to 60mph – 175+mph
B10 4.6 – 5 Series 340BHP
5.5 sec to 60mph – 170+mph
Saloon or Touring
B3 3.2 – 3 Series 257BHP
5.9 sec to 60mph – 162+mph
Coupe, Saloon, Conv or Touring

All models available with Switchtronic – 5 speed auto converting instantly to F1 style steering wheel gearchange.

Sytner

Tel Nick Godfrey: 0115 924 1234
7.30am - 9.00pm 0378 395726

### BMW M1

Alpine White, Black Leather, Full UK History, Stunning, 81W, 20T, £55,000

Sytnerdirect

0115 924 1144

### Whitehouse Ruxley

| | |
|---|---|
| 97P Z3 1.9 Silver, Leather, 2,500 mls | £24,995 |
| 97R Z3 2.8 Cosmos, Leather, 800mls | £31,795 |
| 94L 318i S Coupe Black, Leather, Air Con, 74,100mls | £12,995 |
| 93L 325i A/Conv, Calypso, Leather, 39,400mls | £21,995 |
| 95N 328i A/Conv, Calypso, Leather, Air Con, Cruise, H/Top, 21,700mls | £29,995 |
| 97P 328i Touring Boston, Leather, 13,550mls | £25,995 |
| 94L M3 Conv Cosmos, Leather, 29,350mls | £28,995 |
| 97R 840i Sport Special Paint, 7,800mls | £53,495 |

FREE DELIVERY MAINLAND UK

SIDCUP 0181 302 6431
MOBILE 0374 830480

### Altwood

Our Winter Collection at Altwood Now

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 98N | 740i LWB Arctic Silver, TV, 22K | £39,995 | 96N | 750i A SWB TV, Great Spec, 51K | £38,995 |
| 97P | 728i A Biarritz Blue, Lthr, A/C, 11K | £35,995 | 97R | 735i A TV, Ultimate Spec, 5K | £44,995 |
| 97R | 840i A Rosso, Lthr, ESR, Classics, 8K | £41,995 | 97R | 728i A TV, Incredible Spec, 5K | £37,995 |
| 97P | 540i A Vermont/Beige, OBC, 6.5K | £41,995 | 97P | 540i A New Shape Great Spec, 11K | £41,995 |
| 96P | 540i A Oxford/Sand, PDC, 10K | £41,995 | 96P | 540i New Shape Alpina Alloys, 21K | £36,995 |
| 96P | 525i A Arctic/Grey Lthr, CD, 12K | £34,995 | 96P | 540i A New Shape Great Spec, 38K | £38,995 |
| 97P | 528i Tour Oxford/Sand Beige, 7K | £34,495 | 95M | 540i A A/C, Ultimate Spec, 34K | £29,995 |
| 97R | 528i ASE Montreal/Grey Lthr, 10K | £32,495 | 94M | 535i A Tour Lthr, A/C + Mors, 33K | £23,995 |
| 97R | 525 TDS SE Tour Calypso, Lthr, 6.5K | £30,995 | 95M | 535i A Lthr, A/C + Mors, 35K | £22,995 |
| 97R | Z3 1.9 Alpine/Arctic, 5K | £POA | 95N | 530i A Lthr, A/C + Mors, 60K | £21,995 |
| 97R | M3 Evo Cpe Estoril/Grey Lthr, 9K | £42,995 | 95N | 530i A Tour Lthr, A/C + Mors, 52K | £22,995 |
| 96P | M3 Evo Conv Techno/Lthr, 18.5K | £42,995 | 94L | 530i Tour A/C, Great Spec, 49k | £19,995 |
| 96N | M3 Evo Conv Techno, H/Top, 9.5K | £41,995 | 97P | 528i ASE M/Sport Great Spec, 6K | £33,995 |
| 96N | M3 Evo Conv Cosmos, Lthr, 21K | £41,995 | 96P | 528i ASE M/Sport Great Spec, 10K | £32,995 |
| 95N | M3 Evo Cpe Estoril, A/C, ESR, 19K | £35,995 | 96P | 528i SE M/Sport Good Spec, 18K | £27,995 |
| 93K | M3 Cpe White, ESR, Spoiler, 54K | £23,995 | 97R | 520i ASE Tour M/Sport H/Spec, 9,7K | £30,995 |
| 97P | 328i Sport Velvet Blue, F/Spec, 10K | £32,995 | 95M | 520i ASE Tour Good Spec, 38K | £17,995 |
| 96N | 328i Conv Boston, Lthr, A/C, 11K | £31,995 | 96N | M3 Evo Cpe Ultimate Spec, 16K | £35,995 |
| 96N | 328i Conv Boston/Lt Grey Lthr, 28K | £31,995 | 96N | M3 Evo Cpe Massive Spec, 23K | £35,995 |
| 97R | 328i ASE Velvet Blue, A/C, 8K | £29,995 | 96N | M3 Evo Cpe Great Spec, 27K | £34,995 |
| 97R | 328i ASE Sumoa/Lt Grey, A/C, 10K | £27,995 | 96N | M3 Evo Cpe Lthr, Good Spec, 25K | £32,995 |
| 94P | 325i Cpe Cosmos, Lthr, A/C, 18.5K | £26,995 | 54M | M3 Conv Lthr + Mors, 40K | £31,995 |
| 95N | 325i Cpe Jet/Red Cloth, ESR 12.5K | £27,995 | 95N | 325i A Conv Lthr, Great Spec, 25K | £31,995 |
| 97P | 323i A Conv Boston, Lthr, A/C, 10K | £29,495 | 95N | 325i A Conv Lthr + Fab Spec, 30K | £30,995 |
| 96N | 328i SE Red, Lthr, A/C, 12K | £19,995 | 96N | 328i Tour Lthr, A/C + Mors, 28K | £24,995 |
| 97R | 316i Tour Silver/Grey, A/C, 3.5K | £18,995 | 98M | 325i 2.7 Sport Lthr, A/C + Mors, 40K | £33,995 |

This is just a small selection

www.altwoodbmw.co.uk

Slough (Berks) 01753 821821
Maidenhead (Berks) 01628 680300

Sunday 10am - 4pm

Office

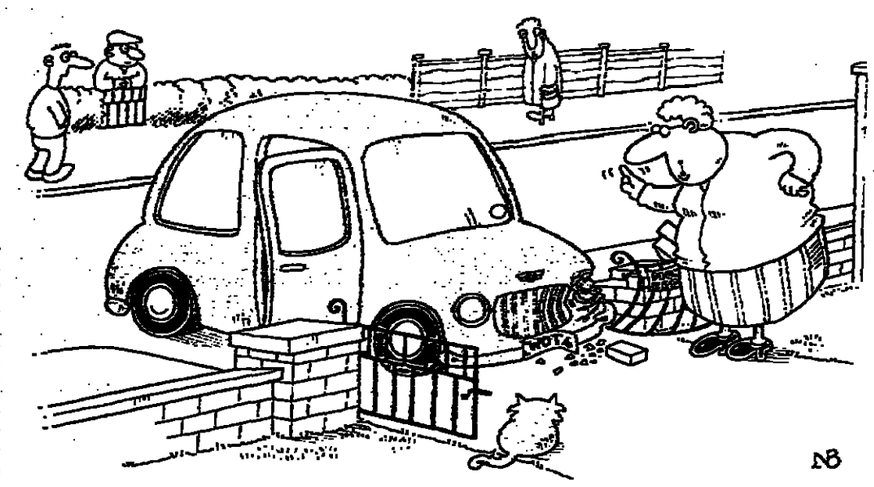
هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



Accidents will happen: and drivers are only too pleased to blame the car as the instrument of their fate, rather than consider their abysmal driving

# Why crashes are never our fault



DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

Channel 4 ran an interesting documentary called *Crash* this week. It was nominally about car safety but several related thoughts came into my mind while I watched, not least about the way that blame for car crashes passes from the vehicle to the driver and back again, partly depending on the fashion of the time.

The documentary showed that car safety has only become fashionable in recent years: manufacturers, especially in America, used actively to discourage safety measures because they believed they would give driving the wrong image and thus have an adverse effect on sales; the very opposite of what is happening now.

Standard seatbelt-fitment in American cars was delayed by 20 years thanks to the absurd notion that people would be put off buying a product that had such an obvious sign that it could be dangerous. Yet the carmakers' reluctance looks less daft when you consider the actual behaviour of drivers. In America, at least a third of drivers do not use a seatbelt (belts are not compulsory, but they *are heavily encouraged by officialdom*). Americans apparently believe that having an airbag obviates the need for seatbelts.

Improved car safety has long had the drawback of giving drivers a false sense of security and so encouraging recklessness. That is why I think we need to get a better balance between making the car safe and making the driver behave safely. If side impact protection subconsciously encourages people to sail through roundabouts without looking then clearly something has gone out of kilter in the minds of drivers.

Although cars are safer than ever, we are no less inclined to blame them for our own failings. You only have to listen to people talking about accidents to realise that at present we are predisposed to think cars are at fault when things go wrong. When people describe some untoward incident, their choice of pronouns gives away their distribution of blame. It is always the driver who has done the correct thing and the car that has somehow failed to respond in the correct way: "I braked, the car skidded. I swerved, the car overturned. I turned the corner, the car hit a tree."

I expect psychiatrists have a word for this (but I don't want to know what it is). Drivers are often characterised as being in some sort of intimate relationship with their cars but if so, it is a love-hate relationship. We may feel at home in a car, we may have all sorts of creature comforts built in, but we are also driving round in an alibi.

A police officer who spends much of his working life patrolling motorways tells me that the scene of an accident is a splendid place to meet people who regard themselves as the helpless victims of machinery. If, for example, faulty brakes are found to be the reason for a rear-end shunt, the driver of the car with the faulty brakes will display a sense of relief: "Thank God, it wasn't my fault." If you prosecute him, he will be outraged. He has not considered that the brakes may be his responsibility.

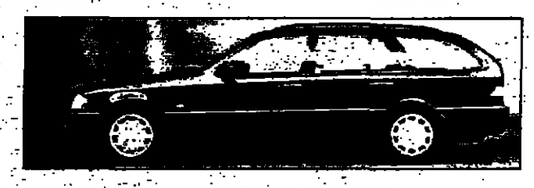
We all do it. Once, in torrential rain on the M4 near Heathrow airport, I touched the brake pedal and the car, which started out in the middle lane, described a circle and ended up on the hard shoulder *facing the right way without* having touched another vehicle. A police officer, who happened to be dealing with another incident, strolled over and said: "People driving too fast for the conditions, that's the problem here." He then walked away.

My version of the event would have been that a car in front needlessly braked, I responded and the car aquaplaned. In that case, not only was the car to blame, but in addition, the car and the weather had conspired to make me look like an idiot. The truth was exactly as expressed by the police officer.

Mind you, it would never have happened if the motorway had been drained properly. Or if the car had been fitted with anti-lock brakes. Or if . . .

# German class act tops people movers

**Alan Copps** finds Mercedes' new estates an impressive combination





New, smaller C-class, left, is the more enjoyable drive, while the updated E-class, above, exudes power and solidity

When the age of the people mover (MPV) dawned there were dire predictions that the days of the estate car were numbered. But despite the huge marketing efforts for MPVs, sales of compact estates have increased by 10 per cent a year in Europe since 1993.

The Mercedes-Benz E-class estate has led the field for big load carriers for many years. The latest version is much better looking and boasts a host of new technical features. But it is no longer the only estate in the range. The C-class estate brings that reputation for versatility and durability to a wider audience.

It also brings it in a less-expensive and more easily manouevrable form. The C-class estate has the same overall length as the C-class saloon, yet when packed to the roof its load compartment offers an impressive 52cu ft of space. With rear seats in place, the loadspace up to the bottom of the screen provides more than 16cu ft. Figures for the E-class are 69.7 and 21.1cu ft.

The latest C-class has a 2.4-litre V6 engine that sports two spark plugs per cylinder for quiet and clean burning. With Mercedes' five-speed automatic transmission, the whole package makes a refined and enjoyable driving experience.

All this, of course, comes at a price, but then a Mercedes holds its value perhaps better than anything and is built to last a lifetime.

Both cars' standard equipment is impressive, including anti-lock brakes with brake assist emergency stopping, power steering, twin airbags with front child-seat sensor and remote central locking. Depending on which trim level you choose, the option list is seemingly limitless.

I enjoyed driving the C-class more than the E-class. It is a modern lifestyle vehicle, fun to drive alone, yet its style, comfort and capacity are incontestable.

The E-class, on the other hand, exudes power and solidity. You feel the responsibility of driving a £50,000 car. It is hugely smooth and comfortable, demanding respect from drivers and offering serenity and security in return, unless you are worried about your wallet. With the air conditioning on, you could practically see the fuel indicator move on the 4.3-litre V8 version.

But it offered one great benefit that would match any people mover: seven seats — with the extra two, complete with proper seat belts, folding up from the loading floor with ease. Price apart, who would want a people carrier when *you could have all that?*

**C-CLASS**

**Engine:** 2.4-litre, 170bhp V6 petrol.
**Transmission:** Five-speed automatic.
**Performance:** 0-62mph, 10.1 seconds; max 133mph.
**Economy:** Urban 19.6mpg; extra-urban 38.2mpg.
**Price:** £28,570.

**E-CLASS**

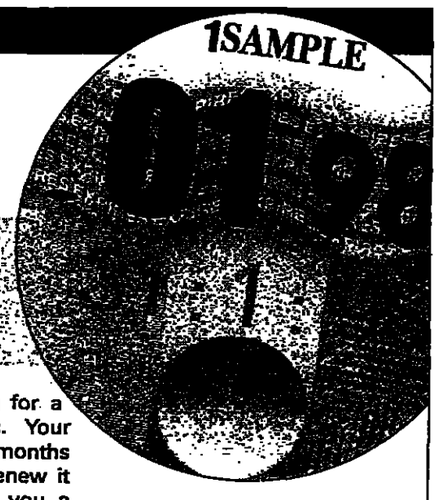
**Engine:** 4.3-litre 279bhp V8 petrol.
**Transmission:** Five-speed automatic.
**Performance:** 0-62mph, 6.6 seconds; maximum speed 155mph.
**Economy:** Urban 16.8mpg; extra urban 34.9mpg.
**Price:** £48,180.

ADVERTISEMENT – IMPORTANT DVLA INFORMATION

DVLA NEWS — Taxing your vehicle? Know the new law

# Countdown to SORN

*Statutory off road notification will apply to all licensed vehicles from 31 January 1998. Find out how it affects you.....*




Changes in the law mean the next time you receive a vehicle tax reminder from DVLA Swansea you can not afford to ignore it. After 31 January, you must either renew your vehicle tax or declare your vehicle to be off the road by using the Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN) section of the new look V11 form. False declarations can result in a heavy fine and imprisonment. This new procedure will enable DVLA to identify road tax evaders and help keep its vehicle register up to date.

Keeping on the right side of the law is easy. When you receive a V11 Tax Reminder form you must act swiftly as any undeclared break, in the continuous taxation of your vehicle is illegal.

Keeping on the right side of the law is easy. The new two colour V11 Tax Reminder form has easy to follow instructions to either obtain a tax disc or declare SORN and both should be done at a relicensing Post Office.

If you want to take your vehicle off the road whilst it's taxed, simply declare a SORN at the same time as applying for a refund on your tax disc. Your SORN is valid for 12 months and you'll be able to renew it when DVLA next send you a V11 Tax Reminder form.

Alternatively, if you want to put the vehicle back on the road sooner you will automatically cancel the SORN by obtaining a new tax disc.

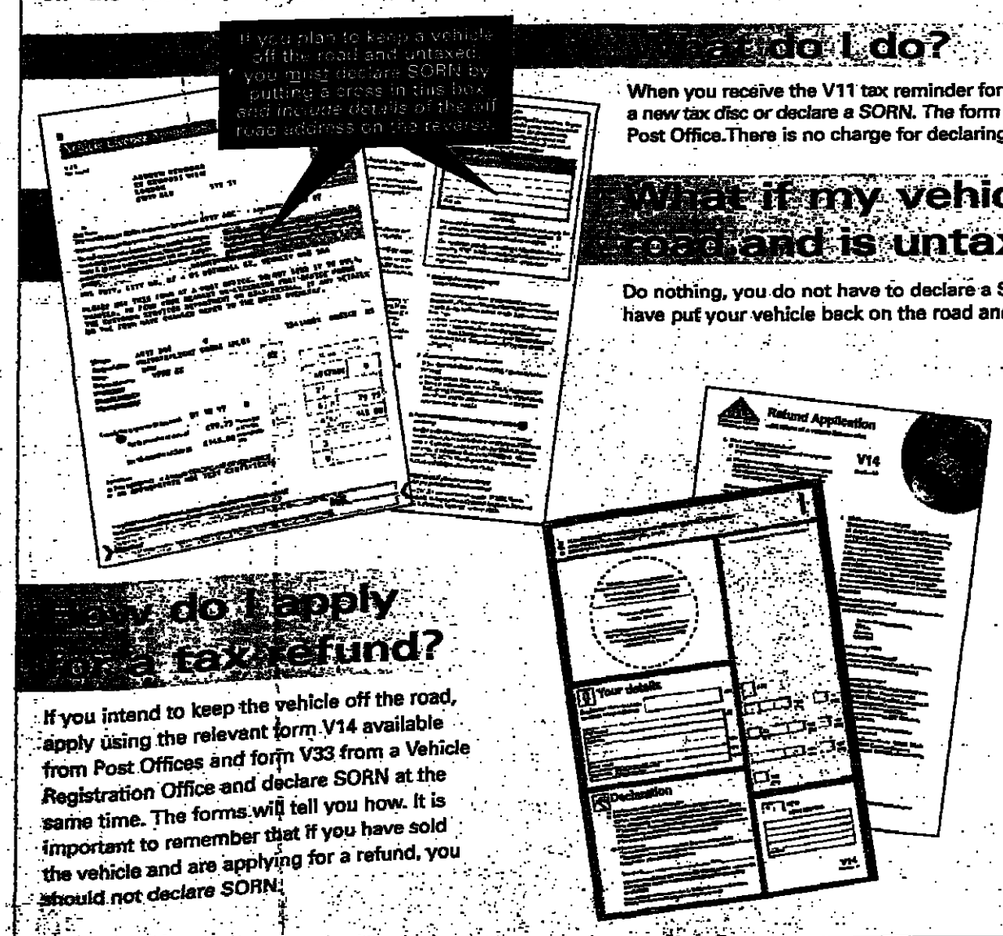
## What do I do?

When you receive the V11 tax reminder form you must act quickly before your tax expires to obtain a new tax disc or declare a SORN. The form will tell you how, and you can do either at a relicensing Post Office.There is no charge for declaring a SORN.



## What if my vehicle is already off the road and is untaxed?

Do nothing, you do not have to declare a SORN. The new regulations will only apply after you have put your vehicle back on the road and applied for a new tax disc.




## How do I apply for a tax refund?

If you intend to keep the vehicle off the road, apply using the relevant form V14 available from Post Offices and form V33 from a Vehicle Registration Office and declare SORN at the same time. The forms will tell you how. It is important to remember that if you have sold the vehicle and are applying for a refund, you should not declare SORN.

## What happens if I forget or ignore the V11 tax reminder?

If you do not tax your vehicle but use or keep it on a public road you could be fined up to £1,000 or five times the annual cost of the licence, whichever is the greater. If your vehicle's tax has expired and you do not use or keep it on a public road, failing to make a SORN declaration could result in a fine of up to £1,000. If you make a false declaration, you will risk prosecution and a maximum penalty of up to £5,000 and two years imprisonment.

## What do I do if I do not receive a tax reminder from DVLA Swansea?

Contact DVLA Customer Enquiry Unit on 01792 772134 or your nearest Vehicle Registration Office.

## How long does a SORN last?

Twelve months. If you sell the vehicle to someone else the SORN declaration is no longer valid. It becomes the responsibility of the new owner to either tax the vehicle or declare SORN. Of course if you choose to tax the vehicle the SORN automatically comes to an end.

DVLA Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency

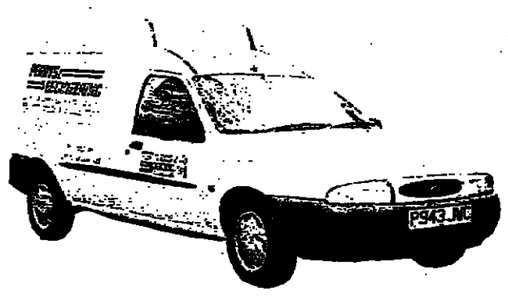
DVLA NEWS — Taxing your vehicle? Know the new law

**Vaughan Freeman** on Ford's cleaner new cars and vans that combine petrol with less damaging gas propulsion

# Dual-fuel cars get green light




Ford saloons such as the Escort, above, and its Courier and Transit vans are now going dual-fuel




The technology to build cars that put out fewer damaging exhaust emissions lies not decades away, but is readily available right now.

World leaders at the recent conference into pollution and global warming in Kyoto, Japan, spoke of the need to reduce such emissions at some point well into the next millennium.

But a range of vans and cars offering instantly cleaner emissions is to be made available by Ford this month using dual-fuel technology that matches petrol power with super-clean alternative fuels.

The range includes Mondeo and Escort saloons, and Transit and Courier vans, able to run on petrol as well as either compressed natural gas (CNG) or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG). Test vehicles will be available for fleet and private buyers this year. Ford is also deciding whether to market converted Galaxy people movers. The vehicles will go on general sale in 1999.

Engines that run on petrol can run on CNG and LPG with virtually no alteration. The gases are also readily available. LPG is a by-product of the oil refining business, and is stored in lightly pressurised containers.

CNG, which is 92 per cent methane, is the natural gas used for cooking, but is compressed for vehicle use. Home compressors are available.

Their environmental attractions are clear. Carbon monoxide emissions are 76 per cent lower than for a petrol car, carbon dioxide is 22-24 per cent lower, while nitrogen oxides and reactive hydrocarbon emissions are down 80 per cent. Lead, sulphur and particulate emissons are almost nonexistent.

North America has 1.2 million Ford gas-powered vehicles on the streets, and even greater numbers are in South America and the Far East.

Here the Royal Mail and BP are running 27 LPG and CNG vehicles, while Securicor, Body Shop, Tesco, Sainsbury's, Bournemouth council and Southampton City Bus all have gas vehicles.

So what are they like to drive? The dual-fuel Mondeo I tested drove in gas mode just like a petrol car. A tiny switch on the dashboard and a glowing green light tell the driver that LPG rather than petrol is being used. When the car runs out of LPG it switches automatically back to petrol.

Power is fractionally down, by 5 per cent, which is only noticable under very hard acceleration. The other slight difference is a small secondary filler cap towards the rear left-hand wing for the LPG. The big difference is in the boot, where a huge cylindrical drum housing the LPG takes up a good third of the available luggage space.

Having to put the gas tank somewhere is a major drawback. There is also the scarcity, so far at least, of places where motorists can fill up with either LPG or CNG. There are only a dozen refuelling points nationwide for CNG, the furthest one north at Warrington, the furthest west at Bristol.

This is why such vehicles have so far been more popular with fleet operators, whose vehicles return at night to a central depot with its own dedicated pumps. There is also the cost, with a premium of around £2,600 to convert a Mondeo to dual fuel using CNG, and from £1,300 to £1,700 to convert it to LPG.

There is one other factor — resistance from the general public. Although motorists happily drive around in cars that have ten gallons of highly combustible petrol swilling about under the back seat, there is still suspicion about gas-powered vehicles, even when the gas is encased in huge cylinders able to withstand a hit from a locomotive.

Ford's Robin August, responsible for promoting the alternative fuels programme, says: "We are very enthusiastic about the current and future prospects for alternative fuels.

"We believe that alternative fuels such as LPG and CNG will become more popular, especially as we now have a Government that is dedicated to moving this process along."

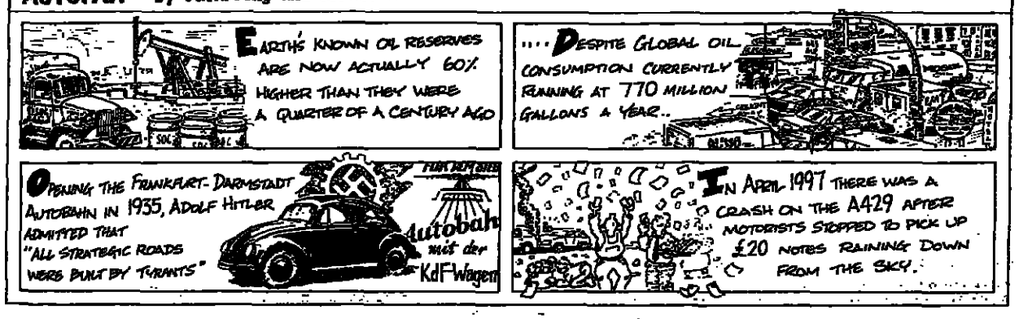
Political commitment is the key to the cleaner fuels' success, says August, with the next Budget creating financial incentives for gas vehicles so that private motorists and company fleets are encouraged to use them, and fuel firms are chivvied into setting up more refuelling outlets to meet the demand.

August says: "Local authorities in particular can easily move towards alternatively fuelled vehicles. I don't think it would surprise any of us if the present Government did make it easier to run LPG and CNG vehicles to help with the effort towards cleaner air.

He adds: "With such vehicles the switch from petrol to gas power is virtually seamless, power output is little affected, and when running on the alternative fuel the vehicle is quieter, creating less noise pollution."

As world leaders clambered into their limousines at the of the Kyoto get-together, they might have strengthened their position if, instead of heading home and back to their petrol or diesel-powered cars, they could instead have been heading towards a garage full of gas power.

**AUTOFAX** by David Long and Les Evans




# Cyclists hit by crackdown on pavements

**Arthur Leathley** on a row over new laws to keep bicycles on roads

Cyclists and pedestrians, traditional allies in the battle against motorists, are embroiled in internecine war over proposed laws to banish bicycles from pavements.

A £20 on-the-spot fine for cycling on pavements will be in force by the summer as the Government prepares to counter the "lycra lout" culture. Ministers this week decided to let police and traffic wardens impose fixed penalties against offenders, reported to be increasingly flouting a 163-year-old law intended to protect pedestrians.

However, cyclists criticised the plan, claiming it was likely to discourage cycling rather than meet ministers' declared aim of increasing the use of bicycles.

They argued that the small number of accidents made the new laws unnecessary and called instead for better provision of cycle lanes. Although 1995 figures record 356 injuries in accidents between pedestrians and cyclists on roads, the number injured on pavements is considered too small to feature in statistics.

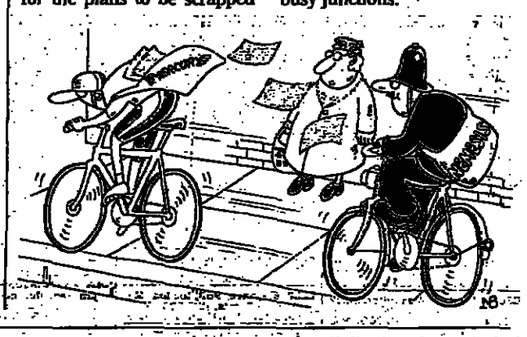
The Cyclists Touring Club attacked the move as "unfair and unnecessary" and called for the plans to be scrapped and replaced instead with a national strategy to encourage riders to take to the road.

A spokesman said: "Bicycles on pavements is a symptom of generally poor facilities for cyclists. Fines will only force riders back on to dangerous roads or put them off using a bicycle. We do not condone the illegal use of bikes but the answer is to provide the infrastructure of cycle paths that will take bikes back off the pavements."

Endangering pedestrians by taking to the footpath on two wheels has been illegal since 1835. Offenders face two months in jail or a £2,500 fine but cases are rarely brought to court by hard-pressed prosecutors. However, the £20 on-the-spot fine is seen as being a more workable deterrent.

Ben Plowden, director of the Pedestrian Association, said: "We recognise the need for more cycle routes but bikes are lethal on pavements, particularly shared paths."

New laws will go before Parliament within four months to combat the normal spate of accidents during the summer. The new proposals will target riders ignoring red lights and zebra crossings, or using pavements to avoid busy junctions.




FOUR WHEEL DRIVE

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE

LAND CRUISER Colorado, 3.0 VX TD Auto, '97 P, 12K, Beigeist. £26,500. Tel:01909 515206

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE 5.2 ltd. L reg. Red, Beige ldhr, Chrome full bar, colour coded running boards, tow-bar, tail gate spoiler, remote alarm, CD, FSSH, 62K mls, LHD, 1 owner, vgc, best model avail. £12,950. 0386 251551/ 01753 663902.

GRAND CHEROKEE 97, usual refinements + CD + s/roof, 11k mls, Bournemouth or London £27,495. 01202 757794.

LAND ROVER

DISCOVERY: T.D.I.S. Auto Avalon Blue, Nov. '94. Immaculate condition, F.S.H. Extras include, Air Con. Side Steps, Tow bar. 62,000 miles £14,995 Tel: 01590 2421654/0410 963401

EURO CONTINENTAL CARS
LANDROVER DISCOVERY 1998
Save ££££
Discovery TDi GS/ XS/ ES
Manual & Automatics
All Supplied With
Manufacturers Warranty
GS Model Loaded With Extras
Call Now For More Information
Tel: 01703 47 02 08
Fax: 01703 47 17 07
We Offer Tremendous Finance Deals
Part Exchange Also Welcome

RANGE ROVER

2.5 DSE, P Reg, 1998, air con, auto, 22,000 miles, immaculate condition, genuine bargain. £23,250. 01744 818003.

RANGE ROVER

2.5 DSE Auto, 98 Mill R reg. 11 Seats, Epsom green/saddle leather, Del Miles. £36,500 01842 815520/0378 841791 t

4.6HSE M reg 1994, Niagara Grey, Granite Grey hide, immaculate, 25,000 miles, 18" alloys, tow bar, £29,500. 0802 413003

VOGUE SE J reg, Black, fully loaded, leather int, alcon, auto, bull bar + side steps, 84,000 miles, spec abroad, quick sale, £9,950. Tel: 0802 439463

4.2 LSE, 1993 K, 60k mls, Bronze, MoT & taxed, CD, a/c, all extras. £14,900 ono. 01636 860711.

LSE 4.2 K reg, '93, FSSH, 60,000 mls, all extras, Plymouth blue £13,900. 0181 648 0368.

HSE 4.6, Nov/94, Dark Green, All extras. Cared for. Bargain £23,000. 01453 828943. Gloucestershire

TOM HARTLEY will pay the best price for R/Rover & all 4WD '90-'98, & collects. 01283 762762

VOGUE S.T TI, Overfinch, '92K, Royal Met/ Grey hide, total conv. 28,000 mls only, FPOA. 01539 821273, Pike Burrows.

LAND ROVER AUTHORISED DEALERS

THE BEST 4x4xPHONE
Is your p/x worth more? Can your budget go further? Call now for instant answers!

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 97P | 4.6 HSE, Oxford Blue / Grande Leather, Dog Guard | 19T £37,500 |
| 96P | 4.6 HSE, Niagara Grey / Light Stone Leather | 21T £37,850 |
| 96N | 4.6 HSE, Epsom Green / Granite Leather, T/pack, S/Steps | 17T £34,850 |
| 97T | 4.0 SE A, Oxford Blue / L.Stone Leather, C/C Bumpers, Walnut Wood | 6T £36,500 |
| 97R | 4.0 SE A, Oxford Blue / Light Stone Leather, ESR | 10T £37,000 |
| 96P | 4.0 SE A, Rioja Red / Light Stone Leather | 7T £36,850 |
| 96N | 4.0 SE A, Caprice / Light Stone Leather, 18" Mondial Alloys | 19T £31,850 |
| 97R | 2.5 DSE A, Oxford Blue / L. Stone Leather, 18" Mondial Alloys | 9T £29,500 |
| 97R | 2.5 DSE A, Niagara Grey / Light Stone Leather | 4T £37,850 |
| 97P | 2.5 DSE A, Oxford Blue / Granite Leather, ESR | 3ST £32,500 |
| 96N | 2.5 DSE A, Epsom Green / Granite Leather, ESR, E/Seats | 22T £32,500 |

Hallamshire 0114 276 5655 Open 7 days Sun 10-4

LAND ROVER AUTHORISED DEALERS

H.R. OWEN
24 Months Warranty with all Used Range Rovers
COLCHESTER 01206 764764

H.R. OWEN
The largest selection of pre-owned Land Rovers in the South of England
NEW MODEL RANGE ROVER
DISCOVERY V8
DISCOVERY
Business Users Only. Subject to Status. Written Details on Request
Internet: www.hrowen.co.uk/london/landrover e-mail: landrover@london.hrowen.co.uk
0171-595 5900

LEXUS AUTHORISED

LEXUS IN SUSSEX
LS 400
GS300 SPORT
GS300
Evans Halshaw
351 Southmoor Road, Tolworth, Surbiton
CONTACT: MATTHEW EVANS
Telephone: 0181 337 4123
Mobile: 0468 720921

LOTUS

ELAN SE 1992 (J). 29,500 mls, lady owner, white, 6 months Tax/MOT, baby Sensus sales. £15,950 ono. 01264 854773 (bus)/01264 660790. (Cambs)

ELISE (S) Oct 97, Metallic Silver, Black roof, Red side tax, CD, 400 miles. £26,400. 01763 274220.

MAZDA

MX5 1.8i 96 reg, M reg, only 8,000 mls, flawless condition, FSH. £13,500. 01483 200915.

MX5 Dakar Ltd edition, 97P, Dark Blue Metallic, leather, wood trim, FAS, + extra CL, R/W, 10 disk CD, 2 year transferable warranty, FMBSH, 18,000 miles, £16,495. Tel: 01280 823045

MERCEDES

190E Auto, 1990H, Blue, 2.6L, 6cy, 41k, FSH, Immac, very rare specimen. 1 owner from new. £14,000. 0181 9333945 (Eve)

190E 2.8, G reg, blue, cream leather, manual, 1 own, 1ch, 37k. £8,495 ono. 01344 846756

230TE Estate 1992 grey next auto FAS ESR RW 75,000 miles 1 owner FMBSH finances available £12,950. Tel: 01753 517822 (Days) 01753 681402 (Eves) T

230TE auto, 92K, Blue Met, 7 stg, A/C, Full MOT, superb, BOC £14,995. Tel: 0171 386 0254 (day) 0181 398 4806(eves)

MERCEDES S320L W140
June 1995
42,000m. Two Owners.
FSH. Leather
Elec Sunroof. A/C.
Alloys. White
£50,000.
Phone 0836 330024

E230
Elegance 96 P, 4K miles, Metallic Ruby red, sunshroom leather, Auto 5 speed, cruise control, air con, sunroof, alloys, elec driver/passenger seat memory, 12 col, folding wing mirrors, twin + side air bags, rain sensor, 3rd head restrint. £33,950ono. Tel: 0181 7668336 or 0181 8330255 (eves only)

C220
Diesel. Registered Sept 94, 106,000 miles, FSH, Lady directors car. Malachite Green/Grey interior. Heated front seats. Excellent condition.
£13,950.
01633 872828

MAZDA

24HR LE MANS RX8 228 Turbo, FSH, delivery mileage, 1 of only 24 produced, best offer. Tel: 0151 7270949

MX5 1.8i, 94M, red, FSH, excellent condition, 40,000 mls, £11,500 ONO. 0171 724 7725.

MAZDA Choice best choice, keenest prices, Mazda choice freephone 0800 323 626.

GENERAL

"Will things have changed by the time I turn the page?"
The thing about news is, it's never new for long. But LineOne, the invaluable information and internet service, always has the latest. Sky News provides news, sport and business stories from around the world and updates them around the clock as they happen. Which means that you are kept informed at every turn.
Try LineOne and the Internet FREE. Call 0800 111 210.
www.LineOne.net
It's what you want to know

MERCEDES

400 SE New Shape, Black metallic 10ks, lots of extras, 1 yrs, Exc cond, Private sale. £25,995. 0181 4602226(B) /0181 6928000(O)

S280 August 1994
Facelift model, twin airbags. Almondine metallic, mushroom leather, Alloys, Sunroof, Climate control, all electric extras + tracker. 78,000 miles. FMBSH. 1 owner. Private sale £23,000. 01745 898238 or 0831 142439.

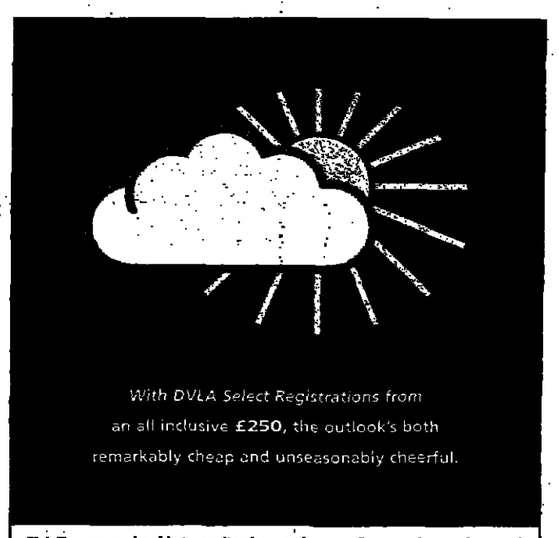
230E 90 H, 1 owner, 32,000 miles, manual, met cookie silver, alcantara, sportsdrawn, alloys, spoiler, RSH, immac cond, £12,950. 01353 642780

SL60 AMG
96 P, facelift model, silver with blue hide, 15,000 mls., multi CD, FMBSH. (You have to drive an SL60 to believe the performance. It's the ultimate sports convertible.) As new. £82,500 ono
Tel:01703 767788

R220 auto 94M, White, Black cloth, Twin airbags, electric memory, 1 owner, 56,000 miles, FMBSH, £17,950. Tel: 0181 445 8267 or 0468 692744

SL600
April 1994. White with Black exclusive ltr. Only 19,000 mls. Full spec, hypacsdale. FSH from new. Orthopaedic seats. Trackerfitted. Chairman's car.
Offers £57,000
Noir car forces sale
Tel:01952 810065 (Home)
Tel:01952 825000 (Work)

REGISTRATION NUMBERS




We may not be able to predict the weather, but we can guarantee your vehicle will be brightened up by a Select Registration. From an all inclusive £250, the price certainly won't put a dampener on your finances; nor need buying one cost you your sunny disposition. Firstly, choose a prefix letter. Most J, K, L, M, N, P and some A and H prefix Select Registrations begin at only £250, while R and B prefixes start from just £399. Some registrations are individually priced. All prices are inclusive of VAT and £80 assignment fee. Secondly, add a number. With A, B and H prefixes you've a choice of numbers 1 to 20, while J, K, L, M, N, P and R prefixes also include repeat numbers from 22-999, numbers ending in 0 from 30-90, and those ending in 00 from 100-900. Next, choose any combination of three letters except I, Q and Z. It couldn't be simpler. Finally, when you've decided on your registration call the DVLA Registration Hotline with Visa, MasterCard or cheque book handy. Select Registrations are exclusive to the DVLA through their Registration Hotline. Lines are open from 9pm to 5pm Monday to Friday.

DVLA Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
01792 77 33 66
Select Registration Hotline
Quote reference: T1701
SELECT

FOR THE PEERLESS MARK OF DISTINCTION THE DVLA ALSO OFFER REGISTRATIONS FROM THEIR CLASSIC COLLECTION, ONLY AVAILABLE AT AUCTION.

DETAILS ABOUT FORTHCOMING DVLA CLASSIC COLLECTION AUCTIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DVLA SALES OF MARKS (MARKETING), SWANSEA, SA6 7JL

If it is your intention to mis-space or misrepresent your registration in any way, do not buy. DVLA reserves the right to withhold certain registrations, some of which may be offered for sale at auction. Numbers are sold subject to the Sale of Registration Marks Regulations and are subject to availability. Prices are subject to change without prior notice. Figure combinations outside the scope of the DVLA sales scheme are not available. REGISTRATIONS CANNOT BE USED TO REPLACE A VEHICLE LOCK YOUNGER THAN IT IS. The vehicle registration number system is under review.

JAGUAR & DAIMLER AUTHORISED DEALERS

AVALON
3 NAMES. 6 LOCATIONS
Stratstone
FREEPHONE 0800 7310222
PARAMOUNT

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (L) 96P Defender 90, 110TD, Auto/Fawn/Leather, 10T | £26,950 | (L) 95M Disc 3.2, Sapphire/Oatmeal, A/C, CC, 70T | £23,950 |
| (L) 94M Defender 90, Estate/Green, A/C, 32T | £21,950 | (L) 96P XJ6 4.0 Sport, BRG/Cream, A/C, 29T | £32,950 |
| (L) 95M XJS 4.0 S/C, Turquoise/Oatmeal, 29T | £29,950 | (L) 94M XJ6 4.0 Sport, Florence/Oatmeal, 24T | £27,950 |
| (L) 97P XJR 4.0 S/C, Antigua/Westaz, H/K, 8T | £49,950 | (L) 97R XJ6 3.2 Sport, Antigua/Oatmeal, A/C, 1T | £32,950 |
| (L) 96M XJR 4.0 S/C, Florence/Cream, CC, 52T | £27,495 | (L) 97R XJ6 3.2 Sport, Sapphire/Oatmeal, 5T | £34,950 |
| (L) 95M XJR 4.0 S/C, Sapphire/Cream, CD, 18T | £34,495 | (L) 97R XJ6 3.2 Sport, Anthracite/Cream, 23T | £29,950 |
| (L) 95M XJR 4.0 S/C, Anthracite/Cream, ESR, 31T | £34,950 | (L) 97P XJ6 3.2 Sport, Antigua/Oatmeal, A/C, 8T | £29,950 |
| (L) 95M XJR 4.0 S/C, Sapphire/Cream, FSH, 11T | £32,950 | (L) 97P XJ6 3.2 Sport, Anthracite/Oatmeal, A/C, 4T | £30,950 |
| (L) 96P Sov 4.0, SR Green/Oatmeal, 12T | £28,950 | (L) 97P XJ6 3.2 Sport, Anthracite/Red/Black, 10T | £32,950 |
| (L) 96M Sov 4.0, Sapphire/Oatmeal, 18T | £26,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 3.2 Sport, Ice/Cream, A/C, ESR, 23T | £28,950 |
| (L) 96M Sov 4.0, Florence/Oatmeal, 50T | £26,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 3.2 Sport, Carnival/Oatmeal, 21T | £26,950 |
| (L) 96M Sov 4.0 LWB, Tobacco/Parchment, A/C, 29T | £27,950 | (L) 95M XJ6 3.2 Sport, Florence/Cream, A/C, 22T | £25,950 |
| (L) 96M Sov 4.0, Sapphire/Oatmeal, A/C, CC, 30T | £27,950 | (L) 95M XJ6 3.2 Sport, Florence/Oatmeal, 47T | £20,950 |
| (L) 96M Sov 4.0, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, CC, 28T | £28,950 | (L) 97R XJ6 3.2 Sov, Sapphire/Oatmeal, A/C, 1T | £32,950 |
| (L) 95M Sov 4.0, Sapphire/Cream, A/C, CC, 44T | £26,950 | (L) 97P XJ6 3.2 Sov, Sapphire/Oatmeal, A/C, 8T | £29,950 |
| (L) 94M Sov 4.0, Kingfisher/Oatmeal, 23T | £25,950 | (L) 97P XJ6 3.2 Sov, Ice/Oatmeal, 11T | £31,450 |
| (L) 96P Sov 3.2 LWB, Anthracite/Window, A/C, 62T | £24,950 | (L) 96P XJ6 3.2 Sov, Carnival/Oatmeal, 16T | £29,950 |
| (L) 96M Sov 3.2, Carnival/Oatmeal, A/C, CC, 30T | £25,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 3.2 Sov, Tobacco/Oatmeal, 11T | £29,950 |
| (L) 95M Sov 3.2, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, CC, 31T | £25,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 3.2 Sov, Ivory/Oatmeal, A/C, 26T | £25,950 |
| (L) 95M Sov 3.2, Sapphire/Oatmeal, A/C, CC, 43T | £25,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 2.5 SWB, Carnival/Oatmeal, A/C, 18T | £22,950 |
| (L) 96P XJ6 3.2, Carnival/Coast, A/C, 15T | £26,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 54T | £22,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 3.2, Carnival/Oatmeal, 10T | £25,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, BRG/Oatmeal, 23T | £24,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 3.2, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 15T | £22,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Ice/Parchment, 33T | £26,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, BRG/Oatmeal Conv, 21T | £24,950 | (L) 95M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 50T | £22,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 29T | £22,950 | (L) 94L Sov 4.0, Diamond/Saddle, A/C, CC, 59T | £17,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 41T | £22,950 | (L) 92L Sov 4.0, Florence/Doeskin, 41T | £17,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 38T | £22,950 | (L) 92K Sov 4.0, Monaco/Doeskin, A/C, CC, 28T | £15,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 27T | £22,950 | (L) 91K Sov 4.0, Carnival/Doeskin, A/C, 67T | £12,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 26T | £22,950 | (L) 93K XJ6 3.2, Montreal/Doeskin, 50T | £13,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 25T | £22,950 | (L) 92K XJ6 3.2, Florence/Oatmeal Conv, 49T | £13,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 24T | £22,950 | (L) 92K XJ6 3.2, Sylest/Doeskin, A/C, 60T | £12,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 23T | £22,950 | (L) 92K XJ6 2.2, Florence/Ebony, ESR, 62T | £10,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 22T | £22,950 | (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Mercer/Doeskin, 45T | £7,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 21T | £22,950 | (L) 95M XJ6 4.0 Conv, Sapphire/Oatmeal, 27T | £32,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 20T | £22,950 | (L) 95M XJ6 4.0 Conv, Sapphire/Denim, 21T | £34,950 |
| (L) 96M XJ6 2.5, Florence/Oatmeal, A/C, 19T | £22,950 | (L) 92L XJ6 Conv, Sylest/Magnolia, 39T | £27,950 |

JAGUAR & DAIMLER

XK8 conv, Jan 97, Titanium/ oatmeal, classic pack, BK wood CD, 18 inc alloys, immac, 4,000 mls, £57,000. 0370 883257

JAGUAR & DAIMLER WANTED

01372 749080 Mole Valley are THE largest Retail Collect Nationwide. 0831 406172 wfa.

LAMBORGHINI

DIABLO (93E) Rosso, Magnolia Leather piped Red, Rear Wing, 7,000 miles £75,000 Guaypauli 01509 232233

LEFT HAND DRIVE

MERCEDES CLK 200 Sport, 97P, alloys, s/roof, stereo etc, del miles, £23,995. 01962 815520 or 0378 841791.

MERCEDES E320 Cabriolet, 94M, Auto, 17quoted. £21,995. 01842 815520/0378 841791 t

LEFT HAND DRIVE

CANCELLED Rover sedans: 825SD, 820 Vitesse Saloon, 825 Executive Auto. All ex-rent'l & fully loaded. Sterling/European Spec. £13,500 each. 01788 226648.T

MIDLAND L.H.D. Suppliers of new & used L.H.D. vehicles, vastly in stock. Left hand drive cars wanted. Tel: 01543 414 307

NEW 98 model VW Golf 1.9 TDI 110hp 5 door finished in flash red a/c RW c/l lum defts. Reliab registered VAT paid £14,995. 01543 414 307 T

LS400 94L Oxford blue, blue hide 8 seats, PAS, ETC, 1 ex owner, £18,500. Tel: 01643 3164590(e) 01642 210376(d) No trade

COUPES direct from Japan, right hand drive V8, twin turbo and 3 litre models new and used. Importer of London 0181 203 5399 or visit our new Manchester Showroom 0161 764 6881

LS400 1990, Grey, 1 owner, 19,600 mls, FLSH. Mint condition with private plate. £20,500. Tel:01293 515200

GS400 J reg, 108,000 mls, FSH, just serviced, superb. Enquire: 01753 681 989 1959.

LEXUS

LS400 1994 Lwg, White Pearl, 45,000 miles, FSH, tracker, pristine condition. £27,500.ono. Bournemouth. 01425 473275 (even,w/ends) 01202 827678 (office)

LOTUS AUTHORISED

ELISE 97P Norfolk Mustard / Blue leather, superb, 18,000 miles, £23,850. Sytner Direct 0116 224 1144

JAGUAR & DAIMLER WANTED

01372 749080 Mole Valley are THE largest Retail Collect Nationwide. 0831 406172 wfa.

OPEN, telephone 0151-546 2000, Saturday, January 17, 10am-4pm Office

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

ts hit by
lown on
ments



## MERCEDES AUTHORISED DEALERS

96N E320 Cabriolet Auto 5 Speed, Azurite, Mushroom Lthr, Climate Control, CD, Stacker, elec seats + Drivers memory, 10,000 miles £47,850 Talk Cruickshank 0117 966 9331t

96N SL320 Green Black, mushroom leather, CD, climate control, electric heated seats, 12,000 miles £54,850 Talk Cruickshank 0117 966 9331t

97P S600 Limo, green black, mushroom leather, ESP 6 Hole Alloys(VAT Qualifying) 11,000 miles £55,750 Talk Cruickshank 0117 9669331

97P S500 Coupe Green Black, mushroom leather, orthopaedic front seats, electric rear window blind, rear spoiler 2,000 miles £58,850 Talk Cruickshank 0117 9669331

C230 Kompressor Esprit 1996 (N) Ruby, Multi Red Cloth, 5 Spd Man, ESP, Alloys, Front Armrest, 21T, £22,995. Tel: 01905 450200.

SL320 1995M, Beryll Blue Mushroom Hide. One owner £46,995. Patrick Solihull 0121 706 2801 sunday 0973 444459

300SL 97P Alexander Green, vhigh spec in ESP, Brake Assist, our own vehicle. Patrick Solihull 0121 7062801 Sunday 0973 444459

300SL 24V 1993K, Blue Black Cream Hide £32,000. Patrick Solihull 0121 7062801 sunday 0973 444459

C280 Sport 1994 (M) Imp Red, Black Leather, 5 Spd Man, Air Con, Alloys, one owner, FMDSH, 27T, £21,995. Tel: 01905 450200.

BEST Selection in UK of SL's, prices from £33,995. 0114 275 3391. 7 days (T)

BEST Selection of "S" Class, 8 to choose from, keenest prices. 0114 275 3391. 7 days (T)

300SL 87D Pearl Blue/Grey Cloth, Rear Spoiler, Fabulous! 26,000 miles £22,500 Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144

If you're talking *finance*, and they're talking *funny money*, you're not talking Cruickshank.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 96N | S600 COUPE ★★★★★ | 12T | £58,850 | 97R | E200 ELEGANCE ★★★ | 6T | £23,850 |
| 94M | S600 COUPE ★★★★★ | 28T | £49,850 | 97P | E230 ELEGANCE ★★★ | 12T | £28,850 |
| 91H | 500 SEC ★★★★★ | 52T | £25,850 | 94L | E320 COUPE 'A' ★★★★ | 48T | £26,850 |
| 88F | 560 SEC ★★★ | 34T | £20,850 | 93L | E320 COUPE 'A' ★★★★ | 49T | £27,650 |
| 97R | S500 ★★★ | 4T | £62,650 | 93K | 320 CE 5 SPD 'A' ★★★★★ | 39T | £25,650 |
| 97P | S500 LIMO ★★★★★ | 12T | £55,750 | 91J | 300 CE 24V 5 SPD 'A' ★★★★ | 37T | £24,850 |
| 92K | 500SE ★★★★ | 54T | £26,850 | 92J | 300 TE 24V ★★★★ | 58T | £22,850 |
| 96P | SL500 ★★★★ | 9T | £66,850 | 97P | E230 ELEGANCE EST ★★★ | 15T | £33,850 |
| 96P | SL320 ★★★★ | 4T | £55,850 | 96N | C36 AMG ★★★★ | 18T | £37,850 |
| 96N | SL320 ★★★★ | 12T | £54,850 | 97R | C230 KOMP SPT ★★★★ | 7T | £30,550 |
| 96N | E320 CAB 'A' ★★★★★ | 10T | £47,850 | 97R | C250 TD ESPRIT 'A' ★★ | 4T | £24,850 |
| 95N | E320 ELEGANCE 'A' ★★★★★ | 10T | £38,850 | 97P | C180 CLASSIC ★★★ | 15T | £19,850 |

talk CRUICKSHANK *now!*

Tel: (0117) 966 9331 Eves: 0385 998357

7 days a week. 24 hours a day. Nationwide delivery. A Sytner Company

**S.G.SMITH** London Signature Used Cars

Crystal Palace 0181 - 778 5252 | Dulwich Village 0181 - 693 0202 | SE19 0181 - 653 7177

98E 280E Brilliant Silver with Grey Cloth, Automatic, Power Steering, Electric Windows, Electric Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, Front and Rear Armrests, ABS, 78,000 miles ....£10,995

89F 300TE Pearl Blue with Blue Cloth, Manual, Electric Windows, Sunroof, Alloy Wheels, Roof Rails, Dog Guard, Luggage Cover, ABS, 76,000 miles ....£12,995

96N C180 Elegance Brilliant Silver with Black Cloth, Automatic, Electric Windows, Electric Sunroof, Rear Head Rests, Twin Airbags, Cruise Control, Alloy Wheels, MBSS Alarm, 15,000 miles ....£21,995

96P C200 Elegance Vivanite Green with Mushroom Cloth, Automatic, Air Conditioning, Electric Windows, Twin Airbags, Electric Mirrors, Front and Rear Armrests, ABS, 13,000 miles ....£25,500

96P E200 Avantgarde Ruby Red with Black Cloth, Automatic, 5 Speed gearbox, Cruise Control, Electric Windows, Electric Glass Sunroof, Twin Airbags, Side Airbags, Rear Head Rests, Alloy Wheels, Front and Rear Armrests, Folding Mirrors, MBSS, Alarm, ABS, 8,000 miles ....£29,995

94M E280 Onyx Grey with Gray Leather, Automatic, Air Conditioning, Electric Sunroof, Electric Windows, Twin Airbags, Electric Mirrors, Rear Head rests, 8 Hole Alloy Wheels, ABS, 37,000 miles ....£25,995

96N E320 Avantgarde Azurite Blue with Blue Leather, Automatic, Air Conditioning, Electric Windows, Cruise Control, Drivers Electric Seat With Memory, MBSS Alarm, ABS, 14,000 miles ....£36,995

95N SL280 Convertible Azurite Blue with Black Leather, Automatic, Electric Hood, Electric Windows, Electric Seats, Rear Seats, Central Locking, Alloy Wheels, ABS, 37,000 miles ....£44,995

Large Selection In Stock

Mercedes-Benz

**Normand - London's Finest**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 97P | S500 LIMO AUTO Met. Full spec | £59,995 | 96N | C280 ELEGANCE Smoke Silver, Air con, 10,000 miles | £24,950 |
| 97P | V230 FASHION AUTO Met. Full spec | £24,995 | 97P | C280 SPORT V6 INDIVIDUAL Silver, 8,000 miles | £24,950 |
| 97P | C180 ELEGANCE AUTO Met. Air con, VAT Qual | £21,995 | 94L | E220 Black Cloth, air con, 5 speed, 55,000 miles | £14,950 |
| 96P | CL 420 COUPE AUTO Met. Full spec, AMG wheels | £59,995 | 96N | E230 CLASSIC Silver, Air con, auto, 25,000 miles | £23,950 |
| 96P | C280 ELEGANCE AUTO Met. Air con, alloys | £21,995 | 96P | E230 ELEGANCE Ruby Red, Air con, 16,000 miles | £27,950 |
| 95N | E320 COUPE AUTO Met. Air con, elec seats | £30,995 | 97P | E230 ELEGANCE Silver, Air con, auto, 11,000 miles | £28,500 |
| 95N | E320 ESTATE AUTO Air con, leather, alloys | £32,995 | 97P | E230 AVGDE Azure Blue, Air con, 9,000 miles | £28,950 |
| 95M | E320 CAB Met. Auto, leather, CD, air con | £42,995 | 93K | 220 CE White, Air con, hide, 33,000 miles | £20,950 |
| 94M | SL 320 AUTO Elec seats, ASR, rear seats | £39,995 | 95N | E320 CPE Tourmaline Green, Hide, 25,000 miles | £33,950 |
| 94M | E220 COUPE AUTO Leather, Air con, arm rest | £24,995 | 96N | SL 280 Tourmaline Green, 22,000 miles | £47,950 |
| 94L | E280 ESTATE AUTO Met. 7 seats | £20,995 | 92K | 500 SL Dark Blue, Air con, 25,000 miles | £33,950 |
| 93K | E280 ESTATE AUTO Air con, leather, 7 seats | £20,995 | 95M | S 500 L Silver, Air con, 14,000 miles | £38,950 |

Park Lane — Park Royal

0171 629 9110 Open Sunday 10am - 2pm 0181 965 7757

## OFFICIAL PORSCHE CENTRES

**RIVERVALE**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 98G | 944 S2 Coupe Guards, ESR | 48T | £18,999 |
| 91H | 944 S2 Coupe Black Linen, Leather, ESR | 31T | £19,599 |
| 91J | 944 S2 Coupe Cobalt, Black Leather, ESR | 35T | £20,599 |
| 93L | 968 Cabriolet White, Cobalt Leather | 35T | £25,599 |
| 94L | 968 Club Sport White, ESR | 29T | £25,999 |
| 95M | 968 Sport Black, ESR | 41T | £27,999 |
| 88F | 911 Sport Coupe Guards | 83T | £24,999 |
| 89F | 911 Super Sport Coupe White | 24T | £38,999 |
| 89F | 911 Turbo Guards | 24T | £39,999 |
| 95M | 911 Cabriolet White, A/C, 17" Alloys | 16T | £55,999 |
| 95N | 911 Cabriolet Tip "S" 285BHP 17" Alloys | 14T | £56,999 |
| 95M | 911 C4 Cabriolet Iris, A/C, 17" Alloys | 20T | £59,999 |
| 97P | 911 C4 Cabriolet Silver, A/C, 18" Alloys | 9T | £P.O.A. |
| 98G | 911 C4 Targa Slate | 26T | £32,999 |
| 92J | 911 RS Lightweight Guards, SPT Exhaust & Chip | 8T | £45,999 |
| 92J | 911 C4 Coupe Guards, A/C, ESR | 35T | £35,999 |
| 92K | 911 C4 Coupe Black, Spt Seats | 37T | £37,999 |
| 94L | 911 Coupe Tiptronic Midnight, A/C, 17" Alloys | 13T | £51,999 |
| 94M | 911 C2 Coupe Black, A/C, 17" Alloys, 10 Spk | 12T | £51,999 |
| 95M | 911 Coupe Tiptronic "S" Aventura, A/C, 17" Alloys | 10T | £53,999 |
| 96N | 911 Coupe Tip "S" Turquoise, A/C, 17" Alloys | 17T | £54,999 |
| 96N | 911 C4 "S" Iris, A/C, 18" Alloys | 25T | £65,999 |
| 96P | 911 C4 Coupe Black, 18" Alloys, Sport Seats | 17T | £56,999 |
| 96P | 911 C2 Coupe Arena, A/C, 17" Alloys | 19T | £57,999 |
| 96N | 911 Targa Silver | 3T | £61,999 |
| 97P | 911 Targa Arena | 6T | £61,999 |
| 96P | 911 Targa Ocean | 14T | £59,999 |
| 97P | 911 C2 "S" Vesuvius, A/C, 18" Alloys, 10 Spk | 3T | £P.O.A. |
| 97P | 911 "S" Tip "S" Black, A/C, 18" Alloys | 2T | £P.O.A. |
| 97P | 911 Turbo 4 Silver | 7T | £P.O.A. |

PORSCHE

Tel: 01273 700911, Sundays 0850 911911

911 Speedster (89G), 11,000 miles, Black, Black Leather, Black Hood £31,500 Graypaul 01509 232233

Selling your Porsche? contact Roger Murphy The Porsche buyer 0402 911 911 RIVERVALE PORSCHE

Stratstone WILMSLOW 1st FOR PORSCHE BUYING OR SELLING Please call Andy Axton or David Hobson on 01625 522222 or 0498 643838 OPEN 7 DAYS

## MERCEDES WANTED

1987 1995 Premium prices paid for all Mercedes. Glenn Williams 01372 749090.T

JOHN WATSON will race to buy your car. Top prices paid for Mercedes-Benz. Call Today 0468 508496

WANTED Wanted. All Mercedes, any miles / condition. 01628 660413 / 0831 123911 now T

## MG

MGF 1.8i F reg, 12,000 miles, Flame Red, Red Cloth, CD, EW, alloys, extended MG warranty, FMDSH, immaculate condition. £14,950. Tel: 0171 727 6090

MGF VVC 1.8i, '97 P, top spec, racing green, FSH, mint. £18,200. 01923 233493.

RV8 Oxford blue/beige, 95M, low price quick sale. 13,000 mls. £16,000. 01992 551693

TREAT Yourself! MGF VVC, BRG, R Reg, 10K, PAS, Leather + Extras. £19,999. 0976 724181

## MITSUBISHI

SHOGUN 2.8 TD, LWB, black, 1995, 36,000 miles, excellent condition, FMSH, wood trim, S/steering wheel, side steps, £18,750. Tel: 01179 520052

**SHOGUN** SWB, 3 litre, V6, auto, M reg, met silver, 1 lady owner, grey cloth int., walnut trim/steering, bull bars, all steps, sun roof, elec windows, radio/cass, 30K mls, FSH, 9 months MOT/Tax, Excellent condition. £16,995 O.N.O. Contact Tony 0171 351 5353 Mon-Fri daytime or 0378 168 474 eves/weekends. (London)

## MOTORBIKES

HARLEY DAVIDSON Fat Boy '96 N reg, 1 owner, £2,000 worth of accessories. Bright red, FMDSH, beautiful condition £11,300 ONO. 01244 322613 (eves).

## NISSAN

SKYLINE R33, V V fast Full 500 + HP conv (Middlehurst) Silv, April '97, 9,000 miles, leather, tinted, Spec. 18" alloys, 12 CD, total cost £68,000 price £52,000 ono. 01789 731100

SKYLINES direct from Japan, new and used. Quicker than a Ferrari and more exclusive. For further information and a test drive call Intercar of London 0181 203 2399

## PERFORMANCE CARS

AUDI S2 Black, air con, 6 spd, sunroof, 30K, £22,000. Tel: 0191 2854142 / 0966 561617

**VIPER GTS** ONE OF ONLY 16 UK CARS, COUPE, 97P, 800MLS, PERFECT, £59,500 ANY MAKE/MODEL PART EXCHANGE WELCOME. CALL MARIO VERNALI ON 01509 232233 Graypaul A Sytner Company

## PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT Marquees, low cost, high value, P and R registration for immediate delivery new 406 V6 SE Coupe Cosmos Grey Ascari leather list. 97R 406 2.0 manual coupe A/C pulsar. £19,995. 0800 850 800.

## PORSCHE

356 Speedster 1956, James Dean Classic excellent condition & investment opportunity for the price of a Boxster. £48,000 ONO. Tel:0402 256888.

911 TARGA 1988 Red/linen leather, FSH, 57,000 miles, 1 owner, immaculate condition. £24,000. Tel: 0116 2539400(w) 01456 824410(h)

911 Carrera coupe 3.2 '88 F, GP White, Leather, FSH. Excellent condition, £19,495. Tel:01344 300032/ 0385 525686

911 CARRERA 3.2 1989, black /linen hlr, FSH, assiduously maintained. £20,995. Tel: 0411 764189.

911 Carrera S2, tiptronic, Jan 97, Vesuvius, 6,000 miles, sport seats, aircon, hlr, CD, £68,000. Tel: 0113 2031200(office)

911 Sport Targa Carrera 1989(G), Black, Red leather, FPSH, 112K, MOT, immobiliser, £22,500. Tel:0181 3011300(W) or 01892 770553(H)

928 S4 auto 92J midnight blue / light grey leather air lumbar s/roof 23k FPSH £29,995. Prestige Cars 01202 245 100

928 S4 1988, Manual, Red, Cream leather + Red piping, 63K, FSH, Superb throughout, £18,000. No offers, no re-sellers. Tel:01844 213139 Oxford

944 S2 92J White/blue leather alloys e/seats 53k FSH £17,995 Barrett-Lee 01787 370774.T

968 Sport, 96M, Metallic Black, full spec, 17" cup alloys, 1 owner, 44,500 miles, FPSH, new tyres, £27,500. Tel: 0171 253 5522 or 0370 348065

996 Tiptronic Jan '98, ocean jade/nefita. Becker CD, A/C, hlr, air bags, £73,995. Tel: 0191 388 7272 (home) 0191 487 6887 (office).

BOXSTER May '97, 6,000 miles, black, grey leather, alloys, air con, cd/radio, alarm, 9 months warranty, £41,500. Tel: 0161 9296363 (non-ext 9-6)

BOXSTER March build, to your own spec. Offers. Tel:0385 331030/01279 724080

BOXSTER Tiptronic S. May '97. 800 mls only. Many extras. £41,250. Tel:01323 899392

CARRERA 2 Tip, K reg, LHD, Midnight blue met, grey leather int, fully loaded, FPSH, 48,000 miles, £24,500. 0171 7343264

CARRERA 2 1990, blue/black lthr int, standard spec, 63K mls, FPSH, £28,000. 0385 355750

## PORSCHE WANTED

WANTED Wanted. All Porsche, any miles / condition. 01628 660413/ 0831 123911 now. T

## PORSCHE

**993 Cabriolet.** M reg. 25,000 miles. Silver with full black leather interior. Sports seats. Air conditioning. 17" alloys. Wind deflector. Immaculate condition. Stereo CD. Will sell at £49,000. Please contact Nizar daytime 0370 828828 or evenings 0171 235 4649.

**993 CABRIOLET,** 94M, Riveria Blue Tiptronic, 17'' cup alloys CD player, immobiliser, full auto closure on alarm, Aircon, FPSH, 37,000 miles. £49,700. Tel: 0976 915252

**928 GTS** 1993 (K reg-private plate) Automatic 5.4 Litre coupe. Maroon with Silver Grey & Maroon hide/carpets interior. Has everything, inc Sunroof, Cd, etc. Truly fabulous and stunning rare car in superb condition. AFN Porsche serviced. Lady owner. £35,000 Tel: 0171 589 5789

**ATTENTION PORSCHE TRADERS**
1997 'P' 911 Turbo Body, Wheels etc. Silver, Black Leather, Air Conditioning, Plus other options. Only 4000 miles.
1997 'R' Boxster Guards Red, Black leather with many other attractive styling options. Only 3000 miles.
Both cars used exclusively by our M.D. since new - awaiting arrival of new 911. Would prefer to trade both cars against quantity of 'R', 'P' volume cars; i.e. Ford, Vauxhall, Rover, Nissan etc, with cash adjustment.
Contact: Bill Hyslop - Stallys Motorstore, Motherwell.
Tel: 0802 629933

## REGISTRATION NUMBERS

BC 1 Pedigree number. £100,000. Mercedes 300CE '89, 68,000 miles Fax:0181 6005222

51 GNS Offers around £50,000 Tel: 01494 724340

L8 VEU and L8 VEO. Offers around £1,000. Tel: 01803 742484

MYP 1 Offers around £2,000 Tel: 01564 774527

R16 EAN £800 ono On Retention Tel: 0467 807807

**13 W** £7,950
**10 CKS** £8,950
**17 KT** £5,500
**P4 STA** £6,500
**HOG 5** £8,750
**A1 TVR** £7,500
Victor Ludorum
**01234-391-117**

## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY AUTHORISED DEALERS

BENTLEY Turbo R 96N Wildberry / Silverstone leather, incredible saving on New 12,000 miles £76,850. Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144

## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY

BENTLEY TURBO R LWB saloon. 1st registration May 97 (P reg), 1400 miles, Royal blue, Magnolia upholstery. Please call Adrian Lee 0589 437087

BENTLEY Brooklands, 93, 17,000 mls, FSH, 2 po, Brookland Gm, Parchment int, Turbo whls, £47,500 ono, 01633 440402.

BENTLEY MK6 1950, 4¼L, MOT and running, in need of restoration. £4500. 0171 7314217

HJM 2 door coupe (Corniche) 1967, 63k miles, history, superbly restored. £18,999. 0121 4274050.

SILVER SPUR 1982, undoubtedly best model avail, Magnolia/Tan lthr, Tan lthr dash/knee roll/steering wheel. Lambs wool rugs, late wheel trims, White wall tyres, 10 stack Sony CD, 1 owner to "95" 2 since, FSH, 47k mls, like almost new car. £17,950. 0385 251551/ 01753 663902. No canvassers.

SPIRIT II 1990 (m.y.) 58,000. White, FSH, 3 owners, totally immaculate condition. £27,500. Tel:01506-415295

SPUR II 91 mdl, Royal Met Blue/ Mag hide piped, picnic tables plus extras, 46,000 miles, RRSH, magnificent. £31,750. Tel: 01204 308106.

## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY WANTED

WANTED Wanted, Rolls & Bentley Models, Any miles/cond. 01628 660413 or 0831 123911

## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY

**LIMOUSINE NEW CONVERSION** (1 metre) 4 door Peacock Blue exterior, Magnolia interior & Everflex Roof, Conference Style Seating, FSH, New MOT, Special Plate £65,000 01909 473084 or 0976 267289t

**BENTLEY 8** 1987, E reg, mesh grill, twin headlamps, alloy road wheels, whitewalls, flying B, azure blue, CD stack system, 60,000 mls, FSH, sheepskin rugs, excellent throughout. Lady owner. ORIO £28,500. Tel:01273 732448 or 0374 926061.

## ROLLS-ROYCE & BENTLEY

**SELF DRIVE ROLLS-ROYCE AND BENTLEYS**
Drive in luxury all year round!
Arrive at that special occasion in style!
The most competitive rates! Weekend specials!
HANWELLS OF LONDON
Tel: 0171-436 2070 Fax: 0171-436 3110
Open Sunday 11 - 4

## ROVER

BRAND NEW Rover 216 SLi, Delivery mileage only: red, manual + ABS braking, 5 door. Only £13,500 ono (inc 12 months tax). 0181 455 4841.

MINI COOPER 1997 P reg, grey with red leather interior, 10,000 miles. Wide wheels, immaculate condition, £8,250. Tel: 01525 862250.

## SAAB

900S conv, 1997P, Silver, power hood, lthr int, alloys 11,000 mls, FSSH, £19,000. Tel: 01276 21065 or 0498 526511

900 Turbo, M reg Jan '95, red, 3 dr, A/C, cruise control, CD, alloys, 19,000 mls, 1 careful lady owner £13,600. 0171 243 2952/0831 858647 No dealers

9000 CSE 2.3T K Reg. 55k. FSSH, Immac, Met Grey, Full Spec. £9650. 01582 582589

## SUBARU

IMPREZA TURBO 5 door, Metallic Green, 1997, 16" Speedline alloy wheels. FSSH. 20,000 miles. £17,500. Tel:01536 418706/ 0116 2861541

IMPREZA Turbo McCrae, ltd edition 011/150, 275 bhp, £25,500. 01924 451648(day)

## TVR

BROUGHTONS of Bristol... the UK's newest TVR dealer serving the Bristol and Avon area. Telephone today for all your TVR requirements. 0117 950 0388/ 0370 480264.

CHIMAERA 94M Midnight Blue / Magnolia Leather, Stunning! 36,000 miles £25,850 Sytner Direct 0115 924 1144

## TVR WANTED

WANTED all low mileage TVR's. Please contact Charles Eyston, Mole Valley. 0181 394 1114.

## TOYOTA

CHEAPEST Toyotas possible. The Toyota Shop really do try harder 01520 722536 anytime

CELICA 92L GT coupe, auto, CD, Red/ Blk lthr, immac, full 1 yr MOT, genuine 39,000 mls, 1 lady director owner, £9,950. Tel: 01293 789500 (W) 01306 631179 (Home after 6-30).

## VOLKSWAGEN

**SCOTTS**

97R Golf VR6 Auto 5dr. Mystic Blue, grey leather, climate, abs, traction, a/bags, elctr, r/h/rests, asc, edm, obc, immobiliser, bbs alloys, 3,500 mls ....£23,995

97R Sharan GL TDI 110bhp. Dragon Green, grey velour, climate, abs, twin a/bags, elc/roof, ew x4, rlrails, 2,260mls ....£21,995

97R Golf VR6 3dr. Brilliant Black, recaro s/seats, traction, abs, pas, elc/roof, r/h/rests, immobiliser, asc, bbs a/w, 690mls ....£20,495

96P Golf VR6 Auto 3dr. Dragon Green, black s/seats, climate, a/bags, traction, asc, e/s/roof, cdl, tracker, bbs a/w, 12,860mls ....£18,995

96P Golf VR6 5dr. Brilliant Black, s/seats, aircon, abs, traction, a/bags, asc, r/h/rests, e/roof, bbs a/wheels, 14,300mls ....£18,995

97P Golf Avantgarde Convertible. Aqua Blue, blue s/seats, blue p/hood, abs, a/bags, pas, cdl, ew x4, obc, asc, a/w, 6,160mls ....£17,995

96P Sharan Carat VR6 Auto. Satin Silver, climate control, abs, a/bags, e/roof, b/i/w, h/seats, cdxl, alloy wheels, 17,960mls ....£17,995

97P Golf GTI 8V 3dr. Mystic blue, s/seats, abs, aircon, e/roof, airbag, asc, ew, edm, cdl, asc, a/w, 7,900mls ....£15,495

97P Passat 1.6L Windsor blue, grey trim, abs, airbags, p/s/roof, a/sic, e/windows, c/locking, 3rd b/light, alarm, 4,280mls ....£14,650

97P Golf GTI 8V 3dr. Mystic Blue, sports seats, abs, p/steering, e/s/r, e/windows, c/locking, edm, tints, 3rd b/light, a/w, 9,160mls ....£14,750

96P GOLF GTI 8V 5dr. Diamond Black, sports seats, abs, airbag, pas, e/s/roof, ew x4, obc, cdl, edm, tints, alloys, 12,100mls ....£14,750

97P Polo 1.4CL 5dr. Dragon Green, grey cloth, pas, airbag, sunroof, ew, r/h/rests, cdl, edm, asc, immobiliser, 3,780mls ....£10,650

94L Golf Driver 1.8 3dr. Tornado Red, black sports seats, p/steering, e/s/roof, e/d/l, tints, alloy wheels, 29,000mls ....£9,995

94M Polo 1.6L 5dr. Alpine White, p/steering, s/r/column, airbag, tinted glass, immobiliser, roof aerial, 21,900mls ....£7,995

MANY MORE AVAILABLE

0171 737 7133
0171 730 2131

## VOLKSWAGEN

CORRADO G60 1991 (H), pearl blue, genuine 59,000 mls, 2 owners, FVAGSH, all extras, excellent condition £8,750 OND. 01234 742686 / 0421 783758.

GOLF GTI 16 valve, P reg, mystic blue, 16,000 mls, FSH, ABS, ESR, CD, 2 yrs wty. Immaculate. £14,995. Tel: 0385 887078.

GOLF GTI 2 litre, 16 valve, 1996 P, met silver, 3 dr, 25K mls, FVWSH, full spec. £12,500. 0171 498 6904/0976 354001.

GOLF VR6 Highline, 97R, 7k mls, Purple Violet, Full Spec. Mint Condition. £21,500. Tel: 01782 712249 or 0410 090506

GOLF VR6 5 door. 94 M. Air con. Sunroof. Alarm. 47,000 miles. 1 lady owner. £13,950. 0468 630329 or 01525 378177.

GOLF VR6 3dr, 1998 R, met black, leather, a/con, 300 miles. £20,995 ono. 01344 845755

SAVINGS on brand new Volkswagen Polo's, nor personal imports 01480 812239 T

EURO CONTINENTAL CARS

**VOLKSWAGEN SHARAN 1998**
Tremendous Savings On New RHD Models
Sharan 2.0 Basic + A/C, Twin air bags ....£15,218
Sharan 1.9 TD 110 BHP, Basic As Above ....£16,464
Sharan 2.8 V6 Comfortline ....£18,587
Sharan 1.9 TD 110 BHP Comfortline ....£17,271
Sharan 1.9 TD 110 BHP Trendline ....£17,875
Please Call For More Information
Tel: 01703 47 02 08
Fax: 01703 47 17 07
We Offer Tremendous Finance Deals
Part Exchange Also Welcome

**NEWBOLDS** 01623 26272 9am - 6pm After Hrs 0589 954586

97R Passat 110Tdi Sport Golden Orange Roof Alloys 9K ....£17,495
97R Sharan 110Tdi CL Auto Dragon Green A/C R/Rails ....£19,995
97R Passat 1.8 Sport Auto Windsor Blue 4K ....£17,995
97R Passat 1.8 SE Manual Silver Side A/Bags Alloys Spoiler 2K ....£17,495
97R Passat 1.9 TDIS 90Bhp Tornado Red Roof 3,500 miles ....£15,995
97P Golf Cabriolet 90Bhp Blackberry Power Hood Alloys ....£15,995
96P Golf GTI 3 door Dragon Roof Alloys 18K ....£13,495
96P Sharan Carat 1.9 TDI 90Bhp 6 Seats Sky Blue A/C Alloys ....£17,495
96P Polo 1.6GLX 3 Door Memory Roof Alloys 5K ....£10,495
96P Sharan 2.0 GL 7 seats Sky Blue Sunroof R/Rails £18,495
95N Golf GTI 3 door Flash Red Roof Alloys 15K ....£12,495
93L Golf 1.8GL Auto White Roof 30K ....£8,495
95N Golf VR6 3 dr Dragon Green 10K miles Full Spec £16,995
FREE NATIONWIDE DELIVERY

**Volkswagen at Dovercourt.**

BATTERSEA
97P PASSAT 1.8 SE ESTATE (New Model), Satin Silver, 3800 miles
97P GOLF GTi, 5 Door, Twilight Metallic, 7000 miles, Electric Sunroof, 1 Owner
97P GOLF GTi 16V COLOUR CONCEPT, 5 Door, Flash Red, A/C, S/roof, 900 miles
96P GOLF AVANTGARDE, Classic Green, 13,000 miles, Air Con, 1 Owner
97P PASSAT TDi SE SALOON, Metallic Grey, 8,000 miles, 1 Owner
95N GOLF VR6, 5 Door, Auto, Dragon Green, 18,000 miles, Climate Control, 1 Owner
94M POLO 1.6L, 3 Door, 8,000 miles, Alpine White, PAS, 1 Owner
97P GOLF GL TDi ESTATE, Satin Silver, 3,000 miles, ESR, Alloys, 1 Owner
97P GOLF CL 1.8 Auto, 5 Door, Diamond Black, 12,000 miles, 1 Owner
97R GOLF 1.6 GL, 5 Door, Dragon Green, 6,000 miles, E/S/R, Alloys, 1 Owner
94M GOLF DRIVER 1.8, 3 Door, Classic Red, 20,000 miles, Sunroof, Alloys, FSH
94L GOLF GTi 16V, 5 Door, Mystic Blue, 37,000 miles, Alloys, E/SR, E/Windows

ST. JOHNS WOOD
98P SHARAN 2.0GL, Auto, Memory Red, Full Spec, 12K
95M SHARAN GL VR6, Sky Blue, Full Spec, 17K
95N SHARAN CL, Red, 7 Seats, 32K
97R PASSAT 1.9 TDi 110BHP Estate, New Model, Many Extras
94L PASSAT 2.0 CL Estate, Velvet Blue, Full Spec. 37K
97P GOLF HIGHLINE, Black, Full Spec, 11K
97P GOLF CL, Auto, Choice of 4 Metallic Paint
97P GOLF 1.6 CL, 5 Door, Metallic Paint, Choice of 6
97P GOLF 1.4L, 5 Door, Metallic Paint, Choice of 8
97P POLO 1.0L, 3 Door and 5 Doors, Metallic Paint, Choice of 12
97P GOLF GTi 16V, Air Conditioning, Leather, 3 Door, Full Spec
97R GOLF 1.6 GL Auto, Storm Grey, A/C, 5K
96P POLO 1.4 CL, 3 Door, Windsor Blue, Air Conditioning, Full Spec, 12K

Dovercourt

## VOLVO

850 T5 CD Estate 1994 Aug M, Auto, Climate Control, Air con, Elec drivers seat, Sun roof, Ext warranty end July '98, 60,000 miles. £15,500. 01222 713000 (day) 753493 (eves)

850 T5 CD estate, 1996 P reg, auto, metallic green/grey lthr, air con, Trip, htd elec seats, CD,c/lock & alarm, 19,000 mls, £21,950. 01953 885682.

850 T5 estate, auto, 1995 M, full spec incl climate control, cruise, CD stack, 51,000 mls, FSH. £19,000 OVNO. 01376 550552 (D)/331723 (E).

C70 COUPE, Manual, Saffron Pearl Metallic, delivery miles. Probably the first for sale in Scotland. Fully loaded, leather, GT pack, passenger air bag, 18" Triton wheels, ESR, Dolby prologic surround sound music system, electric seats. Tel:Gordon 01307-818220

S40 1.8 Auto R reg 98 mdl A/C Pacific Blue 4,600 mls £14,975. Tel: 0181 9056331

V70 AWD Est. Feb'97 Regency Red AWD-Spec plus Red Wood Dash, rear Spoiler, 3-CD Upgrade, Cruise Control. 1 owner, 9,000 mls £24,995. Contact: Paul Hicks 0976 438032 Finance & Part Ex available. T

EURO CONTINENTAL CARS

**VOLVO VOLVO VOLVO**
Tremendous Savings On New 1998 RHD Models
SOME EXAMPLES
Volvo S40 2.0 Basic ....£13,446
Volvo V40 2.0 Basic ....£14,120
Volvo S40 2.0 CD ....£17,277
Volvo V40 TD CD ....£18,232
Volvo V40 T4 CD ....£21,093
Volvo V70 2.5 10V Basic £18,797
Volvo V70 2.5 T SE ....£23,295
Volvo V70 TDi SE ....£22,084
Volvo V70 T5 Basic ....£22,488
Volvo V70 R ....£29,845
All Other Models & Specifications Available.
Call Now For More Information
Tel: 01703 47 02 08
Fax: 01703 47 17 07
Tremendous Finance Deals
Part Exchange Also Welcome

## VOLVO AUTHORISED

**VOLVO** APPROVED USED CARS

850
92J GLT 2.5 20v Sal, Auto £9,495
97P GLT 2.0 Sal, Auto £15,995
94M GLT T5 Est, Auto, 7 Seats £16,995
97P CD 2.5 20v Est, Auto £22,995
96N CD 2.5 10v Est, Auto £18,995
96R Est, Auto, 12K £26,995
96P GLT 2.5 20v Est, Auto £18,650

S70
97P SE 2.5 10v, Auto, P/Airbag £19,750
97P CD 2.5 20v Auto, Win Pk £22,995

V70
97P SE 2.5 10v, Auto £21,495
97P SE TDi Auto £22,495
97P SE 2.5 20v, Auto, Win Pk £22,495
97P CD TDi, Est pack £24,995
97R CD TDi Est, Auto, 3 Disc £26,995
97R CD 2.5T Auto £29,995
97R R Est, Auto £33,950

960
96P CD 3.0 Est, Auto £22,995
97P SE 3.0 Est, Auto £21,495
96P 3.0 Saloon, Auto £16,495
96N CD 3.0 Est, Auto £20,695
94M CD 3.0 Saloon, Auto £14,995

TAMPLINS OF CROYDON
Nationwide Delivery
Tel: 0181 689 2020
Open 7 Days - Sun 10am - 4pm

## VOLKSWAGEN

## MERCEDES

280 CE Coupe W123 series 1978 T reg'd, auto, PAS, whitney metallic / green cloth, ESR, EW, FCA, RHR, original Blaupunkt radio, 88,000 miles, FSH, just had £1,500 service at main agent. Only 2 previous owners. In beautiful condition. £5,500. Tel: 01256 762916.

300E 24 valve, auto, sportsline, 91H, blueblk met, full spec, 86K mls, FMDSH. £14,750. 0171 431 2381/ 0411 139401

500SEL new shape 92K 1 owner, Mercedes FSH, Silver, Black leather, A/C, Alloys, £1,000's worth of extras, chauffeur driven from new, superb condition £25,490. 01255 831241.T

500SL conv, 92k, 37k mls, Burgundy/Cream lthr, rad/cass/CD, 2 owners £48,000. 0171 9357755. ext: 220(9-5).

C36 - 1994. Azurite/Black leather. Extras. 28,000 miles. Good condition. £33,000. Tel: 01279 442220

C200 Elegance, 96N, 40K mls, FMDSH, auto, Blue/Black, Grey, full spec, Immac cond £18,750ono. 01268 416563(H)

CLK230 Kompressor Elegance, RHD, auto, Silver, leather, aircon, etc. 1998, to be del Jan. No prem req. 0171 286 2048

CLK200 Sport, 4,500 miles, leather, alloys, CD, Metallic, ACC, sunroof, £37,000. Tel: 01924 463198 Office hours

CLK320 V6 Sport '98. Mineral Green. Del miles. £47,800. Avail now. Tel:0181 4615249

**500SL** March 1990. Nautic Blue. Grey leather interior. 1 careful owner since new (non smoker) Only 44,000 miles. FMBSH. Child seats. Electric heated. Memory seats. Twin airbags. ABS. ADS. ASR. A/C, 12 mths MB wrty. pvt sale. £37,995. Immaculate. Tel: 01733 342444 (daytime) 01733 380434 (eves & weekends).

**SLK230** Komp, '97R, Del Mls. Silver / Black lthr, a/c, Pioneer. £35,000 +. 01304 389 729.T

C280 Sport Estate Auto 96P, silver, alloys, ESR and windows, 6,300 miles, FSH, £22,500 01296 712989

E230 Avantgarde 10 months, 24K, A/C, auto, Rr. Silver/Grey Hide, fully loaded, 10 stack CD, FSH. £32,950. 01926 491197.

E300 Cabriolet 1994, 2 owners, FMDSH, Metallic Blue, black leather, 62,000 miles, 5 speed, cd m/play, new MOT, LHD, bargain at £19,995. 01903 240248 or 0467 456780

E320 Cabriolet, Azurite/mushroom hide, full spec + stack cd, 30,000 miles, 1995 excellent condition, FSH. £43,000. Tel: 01819 779094

E230 Elég R reg, auto, ... met, beige hide, a/c, 18K miles, £28,995. 01264 363891.

E230 Elegance, 96P, loaded, Met Blue, 14K mls. £27,500. 0171 8078967 W/ 01708 477100 H

E230 Estate, 94 L, blue/black, grey cloth, walnut, auto, 7 seats, 8 hole alloys, FMDSH, auto-tow, £18,950. Tel: 0116 2330037 (day) 01664 434146(eves)

E 280 ESTATE, 94L, Navy Blue, 7 sts, A/C, cruise, ESR, 8 hole alloys, A/Bag, M.B.S. Good condition. £15,950 01572 717636

E280 estate, 1995 L, rear seats, met, ESR, walnut, alarm, 56K mls, FMDSH, £18,950. 01630 647049 H/01782 218678 W.

E220 Estate 94M Auto 7 seats a/c Blue-Blk Tows FMBSH £17995 Barrett-Lee 01787 370774.T

MERCEDES CLK, LHD, 200 Sport, 97R, alloys, tinted, sunroof, a/c, del miles, £32,995. 01842 815520 or 0378 841791.

MERCEDES E320 Cabriolet, LHD, 94M, Auto, f/loaded, £21,995. 01842 815520/0378 841791 t

E280 5 speed auto, 94 M. Bornite, FMDSH, A/C, 53,000 miles, excellent condition. £18,950. Tel: 01242 527000

E280 95M, Blue Metallic, air con, alloy wheels, cd, 1 owner, FMDSH, 42K miles, £19,500. Tel: 01753 887562

S320 Jan '96. Rubin Red, Leather, Parktronic, D/close, 10 CD, Climate, Elec ft seats, ESR, 14,000 mls, 1 owner. FMDSH. £39,500. 01446 721300 Day

SL320 Almandine, Mushroom Leather, 95M, 24K mls, Climate, Htd Seats, Rear Seats, Orthopaedic Drivers Seat, Tracker, 8 Holes. £48,500. 0973 504717

SLK 230- Kompressor, avail for jan reg, del mls only, Black/ Grn, Grey lthr, aircon, CD, full spec, £38,500. 0161 4567360 (day) 01625533832 (eves).

SLK230 Kompressor. Jan 1998, new, Limnite Blue, leather, stereo, del miles only. £37,995. Tel: 0131 2254261

SLK Kompressor, '97, Leather, LHD, 6,000km, air con, £35,000 no offers. Tel: 0181 8107589 or 0410 548864

SLK230 98R. Del miles. Vivianite Green with Quartz Grey leather. A/C, CD, Full spec etc. £38,500. Tel:0797 0613937

S600L 96P, Dark metallic blue, cream leather, usual extras, ex directors car, FMDSH, £57,995 ono. 01709 812288

SLK September '97. Limonite Blue, leather interior and air cond. £38,500. Tel:0161 905 2050

## REGISTRATION NUMBERS

NASH & NASH 01232 711788/392400

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 222 | YIB 2888 | *IOZ 876 | *VOZ 411 | KAZ 9884 | DBZ 284 | [illegible] |
| BLZ 5454 | £188 | IIA 7032 | £288 | LXI 431 | EDZ 780 | ALZ 1900 |
| NIL 6095 | ALZ 1879 | BXI 1959 | JAGUAR | MAZ 9833 | IL 330 | ALZ 1981 |
| NIL 9438 | LIB 4402 | JOW 3064 | CXT 685T | NIL 1639 | MAZ 6891 | LIJ 775 |
| OIL 8840 | LIL 8483 | KXI 379 | CUI 888 | NIL 7885 | TAZ 8871 | *MOI 12 |
| OIL 8841 | LJI 1748 | SXI 4308 | CXI 237 | OIL 8434 | MERCEDES | NIL 786 1 |
| RBZ 2888 | MIL 8845 | UOI 158 | DAZ 3436 | *RBZ 381 | MEZ 8840 | MERCEDES |
| SAZ 8087 | OIL 4404 | UJI 381 | *SAZ 805 | *TDZ 162 | MIA 2348 | *MOI 180 |
| TAZ 3888 | PAZ 8332 | UJI 362 | SAZ 8887 | VUI 262 | IAZ 280 | £100s |
| TAZ 8888 | POI 4759 | BMW | *IAZ 820 | *WDZ 113 | OIL 4280 | CJI 706 |
| TAZ 8887 | MAZDA | OIL 8918 | *IDZ 102 | XIA 853 | PORSCHE2 | DS 6587 |
| £188 | MAZ 8888 | OIL 8820 | *EJI 880 | YXI 688 | NIL 8844 | GZ 9 |
| NIL 5162 | £88 | RDZ 1846 | *JUI 861 | £888 | OIL 8886 | GAZ 1867 |
| NIL 7868 | *EDZ 4180 | *UIB 112 | JAZ 7807 | SAZ 2202 | ROVER | KOP 788 |
| RAZ 8807 | *FBZ 887 | *UIG 570 | JJI 4808 | CAZ 8488 | *RIO 920 | PORSCHE |
| VJI 1841 | FIL 8252 | *VDZ 410 | | | | MAZS 911 |

## REGISTRATION NO'S. CNDA MEMBERS

MARKET RESEARCH 33 DAISY HILL DRIVE CHORLEY PR6 9HE

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 359 ADD | 1,200 | HRF 110 | 850 | 3626 MF | 1,750 | RR 3798 | 2,800 |
| BW 7370 | 2,800 | JAG 60Y | 500 | MIIRLKS | 1,200 | 698 RTU | 600 |
| 458 CAC | 1,400 | JEB 42 | 2,800 | MIL 345 | 1,200 | SCM 33 | 2,800 |
| 1701 DA | 1,400 | JIL 1955 | 1,200 | 5125 ML | 1,400 | JI SGH | 500 |
| 365 DEL | 1,500 | JIW 19 | 1,600 | MMV 99 | 1,500 | SJI 3 | 2,800 |
| EK 7631 | 1,450 | JS 9363 | 3,000 | MPH 8W | 600 | AI5 OAN | 500 |
| ESB 74 | 1,800 | 845 KAB | 1,800 | MPW 29E | 500 | (AI SOAN) | |
| FAZ 1221 | 800 | KDL 492 | 700 | NI6 ELX | 1,500 | SUE 515W | 750 |
| FM 8806 | 1,500 | KG 5384 | 800 | 630 NT | 1,850 | 8 TES | 2,800 |
| 838 GEA | 1,200 | 750 KYC | 600 | OSU 380 | 450 | (FERRARI) | |
| GIL-58 | 2,500 | (750cc M/BIKE) | | 69 PAR | 9,800 | AII THD | 600 |
| GOW 257 | 1,000 | LEO 30Y | 900 | PCM 468 | 1,600 | UF 4 | 3,800 |
| 940 GWD | 1,000 | (LEO BOY) | | PHH 91IX | 500 | WA 2160 | 1,400 |
| H4 RON | 1,000 | 792 LMT | 1,400 | PN 7874 | 1,600 | WD II2 | 2,000 |
| HAZ 401 | 1,000 | LYJ 111 | 1,800 | 7 PW | 10,000 | I XKK | 5,000 |
| HAZ 402 | 800 | 2 MA | 12,000 | RDM 761 | 2,000 | (NEW XK8 JAG) | |
| HAZ 403 | 800 | MFO 443 | 750 | REG 944X | 600 | XUH 4 | 1,500 |
| HAZ 404 | 800 | MIB 9669 | 800 | I017 RH | 1,800 | XUH 5 | 1,500 |
| HK 4741 | 1,600 | MS RCX | 2,500 | RN 3199 | 1,600 | YB 7794 | 1,200 |

DVLA AUCTION OF ATTRACTIVE REGISTRATION MARKS
If you are contemplating a bid please consider the benefits of expert advice: we provide comprehensive information, essential when coming to a bid decision; otherwise you may inadvertently bid too much or too little.

PHONE 01257 462303 FAX 474753

NE NUMBERS 0191 520 2200 CNDA
PO BOX 1, SUNDERLAND, SR2 7YS ALL + VAT

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 826 AAA £1395 | 521 DTA £1295 | 545 JBP £1450 | 252 LRB £895 | PTM 430 £1395 |
| 275 ALF £1850 | 553 DTR £1295 | B16 JER £750 | B16 MAJ £750 | B16 PUL £750 |
| B16 APS £750 | 591 ECJ £750 | JIB 60 £1950 | B16 MEO £750 | B16 PYE £750 |
| B16 ASA £750 | 394 EHA £850 | JW 5 £3450 | MFO 589 £895 | 881 RBM £1350 |
| B16 BAY £750 | FK 9143 £1350 | JON 359W £900 | MIB 248 £750 | B16 REX £1250 |
| 917 BBJ £950 | FO 5715 £895 | B16 JOS £1950 | B16 NAP £950 | R11 RON £995 |
| 863 BFJ £750 | FP 5871 £1350 | 574 JRT £1295 | NLX 921 £800 | B16 RUB £750 |
| 844 BFR £900 | 0% FINANCE AVAILABLE | | | B16 SBS £750 |
| B16 BRS £750 | | | | SCM 838 £1650 |
| R 8ARR £1295 | FT 8381 £1350 | B16 JSL £750 | NTO 296 £800 | B16 TEX £1250 |
| B16 CDM £750 | 546 GDA £1150 | JTE 447 £1195 | B16 NUN £750 | 633 TKT £950 |
| B16 COB £995 | 329 GRP £1350 | KJY 158 £850 | P7ODY £1250 | B16 VAT £750 |
| R 6OOK £1350 | 788 GTM £1295 | KTS 670 £1350 | PCW 1J £750 | VMY 845 £750 |
| 571 CPB £1199 | HCS 338 £1450 | 812 KTV £750 | 8887 PE £950 | B16 WED £1250 |
| B16 CSB £750 | B16 HUT £750 | 400 LKL £1195 | 4311 PK £1250 | WF 9407 £1350 |
| B16 DPB £950 | 771 HWL £850 | 366 LPB £895 | 595 PTG £1150 | 144 WPA £750 |

0% FINANCE AVAILABLE ON ALL THE ABOVE NUMBERS
SUBJECT TO STATUS E.G. 252 LRB £895 + VAT
10% DEPOSIT + 10 PAYMENTS OF £87.00 TOTAL £895 + VAT 0% APR
NE NUMBERS ARE LICENCED CREDIT BROKERS

## REGISTRATION NO'S. CNDA MEMBERS

MARK HUNT OF HULL C.N.D.A.

[illegible]

TEL 01482 865918/860430 PO BOX 33, BEVERLEY, HU17 0SP.

## GENERAL




THERE'S ALWAYS MORE ROOM IN FIRST CLASS. CALL 0345 833 833. GALAXY Ford

Galaxy features 7 seats and Air Conditioning as standard. All vehicles are entry level 2.0 litre (1.8 if 2.0 litre not available) with Air Conditioning. Where Air Conditioning is not standard the option price has been included. All prices are MRP on-the-road prices correct at time of going to press ...

# THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

| | Sell | Buy | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **AIB BOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888 | | | | |
| Protected Funds: | | | | |
| Uk Safeguard | 137.65 | 146.99 | + 0.44 | |
| Do MAY to Mar 20 | 134.56 | 134.56 | | |
| Uk Equity Safeguard | 108.89 | 116.45 | | 2.47 |
| Do SEP to Mar 20 | 105.85 | 105.85 | | |
| Cash | 959.27 | 964.07 | + 1.00 | 5.75 |
| Uk Growth Funds: | | | | |
| UK Equity Gen | 329.50 | 403.70 | + 1.90 | 1.65 |
| Uk Small Cos | 81.84 | 87.52 | + 1.46 | 0.49 |
| FTSE 100 Index | 98.67 | 105.52 | + 2.08 | 2.11 |
| Geared Uk Index | 2364.72 | 2496.56 | +32.00 | 5.75 |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Corp Bd | 82.75 | 85.72 | + 0.12 | |
| Monthly Inc | 47.92 | 49.84 | + 0.06 | 8.72 |
| International Funds: | | | | |
| American Gen | 283.50 | 307.10 | + 4.20 | |
| American Grad | 226.00 | 241.72 | + 5.03 | |
| JG US Index | 2315.60 | 2464.02 | + 8.00 | 4.00 |
| European Gen | 326.50 | 346.10 | + 4.20 | 0.68 |
| European Grad | 140.45 | 150.21 | + 1.90 | |
| Japan Gen | 108.99 | 115.40 | + 1.30 | |
| Asia Pacific | 60.22 | 64.03 | + 0.35 | 1.09 |
| Pacific Grad | 92.61 | 99.31 | + 1.56 | |
| Greater China | 156.67 | 167.56 | + 9.07 | |
| Latin America | 97.62 | 104.16 | + 6.16 | |
| Int Growth | 161.62 | 172.85 | + 3.08 | |
| Balanced Exempt | 168.30 | 180.10 | | 2.29 |
| Global Strategy | 45.52 | 48.68 | + 1.12 | |
| **AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS** | | | | |
| 01253 550 251 | | | | |
| General Acc | 851.30 | 905.60 | + 3.20 | 2.51 |
| General Inc | 699.63 | 738.00 | + 2.50 | 2.51 |
| UK Growth Acc | 588.20 | 625.70 | + 2.80 | 2.48 |
| UK Growth Inc | 571.80 | 395.50 | + 1.80 | 2.48 |
| Higher Inc Acc # | 1100.00 | 1170.00 | +13.00 | 4.57 |
| Higher Inc Inc # | 564.70 | 600.70 | + 6.50 | 4.57 |
| Gilt/Fxd Int Acc | 376.60 | 398.80 | + 0.60 | 5.54 |
| Gilt/Fxd Int Inc | 98.17 | 103.60 | + 0.20 | 5.54 |
| 5th America | 416.10 | 442.60 | + 1.80 | |
| Europe | 457.20 | 486.30 | + 0.80 | 0.58 |
| Pac Excel | 116.80 | 124.20 | + 0.40 | 2.33 |
| Pac Emerging Acc | 148.90 | 158.30 | + 1.00 | 4.40 |
| Pac Emerging Inc | 99.41 | 105.50 | + 0.70 | 4.40 |
| Capital Opps | 110.30 | 117.30 | + 0.10 | 0.26 |
| Balanced Acc | 73.64 | 78.34 | + 0.49 | 2.35 |
| Balanced Inc | 67.37 | 71.67 | + 0.44 | 2.35 |
| Japan Acc | 34.65 | 36.86 | + 0.15 | |
| Pac Basin Acc | 253.20 | 269.30 | + 5.80 | 2.48 |
| **ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS** | | | | |
| 0345 717 373 | | | | |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 145.20 | 154.00 | + 0.50 | 5.81 |
| High Inc Equity | 223.20 | 238.70 | + 0.60 | 4.22 |
| Worldwide Bond | 276.30 | 293.10 | + 2.30 | 3.42 |
| American Growth | 520.00 | 554.00 | + 2.50 | 0.23 |
| Asian Growth | 186.70 | 198.90 | + 1.70 | 0.27 |
| Income & Earnings | 349.60 | 372.90 | + 3.50 | 2.73 |
| Euro Capital Acc | 247.40 | 259.30 | + 3.70 | 0.77 |
| Extra Inc | 42.26 | 44.96 | + 0.36 | 9.25 |
| General | 323.30 | 343.40 | + 3.50 | 2.65 |
| Global Opps | 74.52 | 79.26 | + 0.19 | 0.40 |
| Japan | 75.09 | 80.01 | + 2.60 | |
| Managed Inc | 57.48 | 56.83 | + 0.03 | 4.57 |
| Mechanised | 180.60 | 196.40 | + 0.30 | 1.13 |
| UK Emerging Co | 212.90 | 227.70 | + 3.20 | |
| Ethical | 93.70 | 99.86 | + 1.95 | 1.84 |
| International | 137.90 | 146.70 | + 1.10 | 0.56 |
| Dividend & Growth | 81.97 | 87.20 | + 0.28 | 3.93 |
| Global Earth & Sec | 78.24 | 83.47 | + 0.28 | 2.42 |
| Latin America | 72.79 | 77.44 | + 4.88 | 0.87 |
| Capital Reserve | 154.30 | 164.40 | + 0.30 | 4.53 |
| **ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 275 4500 | | | | |
| 1st Gp Gwth | 174.20 | 179.30 | + 0.50 | 1.78 |
| Equity Income # | 162.30 | 172.60 | + 0.90 | 3.60 |
| Evrg Income # | 310.00 | 329.40 | + 1.70 | 4.54 |
| Smaller Cos | 160.80 | 169.30 | + 0.80 | 2.67 |
| International | 128.60 | 136.80 | + 0.50 | 1.23 |
| **ABERDEEN PROLIFIC UT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Emrg 01345 089 666 Dlg: 0800 833 599 | | | | |
| American Gen Acc | 283.50 | 307.10 | + 4.20 | |
| American Grad | 226.00 | 241.72 | + 5.03 | |
| JG US Index | 2315.60 | 2464.02 | + 8.00 | 4.00 |
| European Gen | 326.50 | 346.10 | + 4.20 | 0.68 |
| European Grad | 140.45 | 150.21 | + 1.90 | |
| Japan Gen | 108.99 | 115.40 | + 1.30 | |
| Asia Pacific | 60.22 | 64.03 | + 0.35 | 1.09 |
| Pacific Grad | 92.61 | 99.31 | + 1.56 | |
| Greater China | 156.67 | 167.56 | + 9.07 | |
| Latin America | 97.62 | 104.16 | + 6.16 | |
| Int Growth | 161.62 | 172.85 | + 3.08 | |
| Balanced Exempt | 168.30 | 180.10 | | 2.29 |
| Global Strategy | 45.52 | 48.68 | + 1.12 | |
| **ABERFORTH UNIT TRST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 220 0733 | | | | |
| UK Small Cos | 2510.00 | 2514.00 | | |
| **ARBWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 256 5999 | | | | |
| Redd Property # | 112.10 | 119.20 | + 1.00 | 4.80 |
| **ALLCHURCHES BW MGMT SVS LTD** | | | | |
| 01452 305 958 | | | | |
| Amity Income | 110.67 | 116.78 | + 0.34 | 1.70 |
| Income Builder Inc | 99.11 | 104.37 | + 0.24 | 3.10 |
| **B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 01293 526 911 | | | | |
| Capital Dist Pens | 139.50 | 144.90 | | |
| Founder Perpl Pens | 91.74 | 94.92 | | |
| **BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD** | | | | |
| 0131 222 4242 | | | | |
| American Sm Cos | 438.30 | 466.20 | - 3.70 | |
| Bond | 123.30 | 129.80# | - 0.10 | 6.44 |
| Brit Smlr Cos | 112.50 | 119.70# | + 1.30 | 1.88 |
| Europe | 354.10 | 375.80# | + 1.60 | |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 124.50 | 132.80 | - 3.50 | |
| High Income # | 70.44 | 75.36 | + 0.57 | 5.38 |
| Income | 427.70 | 448.60 | - 2.10 | 3.86 |
| Japan | 388.90 | 306.20 | + 8.00 | |
| Latin American | 100.30 | 106.70 | - 6.30 | |
| Pacific | 62.62 | 66.62# | - 1.29 | 1.16 |
| UK Smlr Cos | 62.09 | 67.12# | + 0.31 | 1.29 |
| Japanese Sm Cos | 468.50 | 492.90 | + 6.40 | |
| Mngd Pd | 240.80 | 256.60 | + 1.80 | 2.41 |
| **BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 488 8672 | | | | |
| Bnf & Accm | 429.80 | 453.60 | - 8.80 | 0.77 |
| Capital Gwth | 163.20 | 172.60 | - 4.80 | 2.44 |
| Wrldwi Opps | 234.80 | 248.30 | - 5.10 | 0.90 |
| **BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD** | | | | |
| Customer Help Desk 0181 522 4000 | | | | |
| Income Funds: | | | | |
| Cash | 100.30 | 100.30# | + 0.10 | 6.75 |
| Cash Acc | 131.90 | 131.90# | + 0.10 | 6.75 |
| Income # | 719.90 | 767.90 | + 0.10 | 3.92 |
| Income Builder # | 92.96 | 98.35 | - 0.23 | 4.53 |
| Balanced Funds | | | | |
| Exempt | 167.70 | 174.60 | + 0.70 | 2.17 |
| 500 | 579.80 | 568.60 | + 2.30 | 2.07 |
| General | 410.60 | 436.80 | + 2.30 | 1.70 |
| Property | 266.20 | 285.60 | + 0.70 | 5.56 |
| Tracker | 266.40 | 304.70# | + 0.80 | 1.66 |
| Growth Funds - UK: | | | | |
| Capital | 184.40 | 196.20 | + 1.20 | 1.62 |
| FTSE 100 | 133.00 | 141.20# | + 0.90 | 1.76 |
| Growth Acc | 578.10 | 615.00 | + 5.00 | 1.43 |
| Smaller Cos | 62.40 | 66.56 | + 0.42 | 2.34 |
| Smaller Cos Acc | 75.15 | 80.16 | + 0.50 | 2.34 |
| Growth Funds - Overseas: | | | | |
| America | 253.60 | 269.90 | - 3.00 | 0.04 |
| American Growth | 162.40 | 172.10 | - 1.70 | |
| Japan | 95.34 | 100.80 | + 0.80 | |
| Japan Acc | 96.44 | 101.90 | + 5.77 | |
| Japan Spec Sit | 42.85 | 45.39 | + 2.25 | |
| Worldwide | 212.10 | 225.20 | + 0.70 | 0.96 |
| Barclays Investment Portfolios: | | | | |
| Managed Income | 49.90 | 51.61 | - 0.08 | 7.10 |
| Mngd Gwth & Inc # | 48.00 | 50.68 | - 0.08 | 4.56 |
| Managed Growth | 46.52 | 49.57 | + 0.24 | 0.56 |
| **BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 214 1004 | | | | |
| American Growth | 183.70 | 190.80 | - 3.30 | |
| Amer Smlr Cos | 163.60 | 174.50 | - 4.10 | |
| Asian Gth | 144.70 | 153.50 | + 1.10 | 0.30 |
| Emrg Income # | 127.40 | 135.90 | + 1.10 | 4.26 |
| European Growth | 433.70 | 524.90 | + 1.00 | 0.60 |
| Extra Income | 432.90 | 462.70 | - 3.70 | 6.60 |
| General Growth | 332.00 | 109.10 | - 2.10 | 0.50 |
| Global Bond | 77.06 | 79.60 | + 0.20 | 0.10 |
| Global Growth | 174.00 | 184.60 | + 0.20 | 0.10 |
| Japan Growth | 168.00 | 171.30 | + 5.70 | |
| Japan Smlr Co | 78.15 | 82.75 | + 1.41 | |
| Korea Fund | 23.50 | 25.56 | + 4.08 | |
| Pacific | 175.60 | 186.70 | + 0.50 | 2.00 |
| Pan European | 335.70 | 356.60 | + 0.50 | 2.00 |
| UK Growth | 137.30 | 146.50 | + 2.00 | 1.60 |
| UK Smaller Cos | 274.50 | 140.30 | + 0.10 | 1.00 |
| United Kingdom | 95.38 | 101.70 | | 1.00 |
| **BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 250 3000 | | | | |
| Int Gwth Port Inc | 192.90 | 199.40# | - 1.20 | |
| Special Opport Inc | 56.69 | 60.52 | - 2.14 | |
| **BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0141 225 6020 | | | | |
| Balanced Growth | 186.47 | 194.24 | + 1.26 | 1.02 |
| Acc. Accum | 220.58 | 229.77 | + 1.49 | 1.02 |
| Smaller Cos | 172.18 | 179.38 | + 1.16 | 0.63 |
| Higher Yield # | 70.62 | 73.71 | + 0.35 | 3.40 |
| American Gth Inc | 133.41 | 138.97 | - 1.20 | |
| European Growth | 81.87 | 85.30# | + 0.28 | 3.93 |
| Global Growth | 77.29 | 80.52 | + 0.26 | 0.93 |
| Japanese Gth Inc | 52.67 | 54.87 | + 0.03 | 4.57 |
| Managed Pn | 67.18 | 69.98 | + 0.23 | 2.86 |
| Pacific Basin | 52.48 | 54.68 | + 0.03 | 4.57 |
| Mechanised | 180.60 | 196.40 | - 0.30 | 1.13 |
| UK Emergency Co | 212.90 | 227.70 | - 3.20 | |
| Ethical | 93.70 | 99.86 | + 1.95 | 1.84 |
| International | 137.90 | 146.70 | - 1.10 | 0.56 |
| Dividend & Growth | 81.97 | 87.20# | + 0.28 | 3.93 |
| Global Earth & Sec | 78.24 | 83.47 | + 0.28 | 2.42 |
| Latin America | 72.79 | 77.44 | - 4.88 | 0.87 |
| Capital Reserve | 154.30 | 164.40 | - 0.30 | 4.53 |
| **BRUNSWICK UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 606 1066 | | | | |
| Balanced Inc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Balanced Acc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Fixed Int Inc | 97.48 | 103.83 | + 0.33 | 5.63 |
| Fixed Int Acc | 97.48 | 103.83 | + 0.33 | 5.63 |
| Equity Inc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Equity Acc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Property Inc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Property Acc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Managed Inc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| Managed Acc | 107.48 | 114.47 | + 0.38 | 3.93 |
| **BUDGENS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01635 868 000 | | | | |
| Balanced | 92.28 | 95.70 | + 0.08 | 3.49 |
| Capital | 99.60 | 103.95 | - 0.12 | 1.91 |
| High Income | 97.58 | 99.97 | + 0.06 | 6.32 |
| Top 50 | 74.60 | 77.70 | + 0.37 | 1.91 |
| **CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 606 0700 | | | | |
| Cazenove Portfolio | 113.29 | 120.45# | - 0.61 | 2.35 |
| American Portfolio | 164.11 | 173.96# | - 0.02 | 0.71 |
| Bond Income | 162.56 | 172.84 | - 1.73 | 0.26 |
| European Portfolio | 56.77 | 59.37 | - 0.04 | 6.42 |
| Japanese Portfolio | 42.24 | 44.72# | - 0.04 | |
| Pacific Portfolio | 99.43 | 105.93# | - 0.93 | 1.18 |
| Income Funds | 113.70 | 121.22 | - 0.75 | 3.02 |
| UK Equity | 69.35 | 72.43 | - 0.11 | 4.92 |
| UK Equity & Bd | 66.35 | 69.88 | + 0.23 | 1.65 |
| Uk Smlr Cos | | | | |
| **CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS** | | | | |
| 0171 588 1815 | | | | |
| Inv Fd Inc | 918.67 | 932.55 | - 29.31 | 3.72 |
| Inv Fd Acc | 950.09 | 964.45 | - 30.32 | |
| Fxd Int Sec Inc | 167.85 | 168.53 | + 1.89 | 6.49 |
| Fxd Int Sec Acc | 179.48 | 180.18 | + 2.00 | |
| **CBF CHURCH FUNDS** | | | | |
| 0171 588 1815 | | | | |
| Investment Inc | 910.20 | 923.95 | - 15.07 | 3.77 |
| Investment Acc | 4429.29 | 4497.08 | - 73.24 | |
| Fixed Int Inc | 135.00 | 135.54 | + 1.34 | 8.56 |
| Fixed Int Acc | 274.03 | 275.13 | + 0.75 | 8.58 |
| **CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 588 8800 | | | | |
| Electronic Int | 101.41 | 106.83 | - 0.31 | 5.80 |
| Stock Bio-Tech | 39.86 | 43.06# | - 0.30 | |
| Accm Emerg Tst | 223.98 | 238.26# | - 2.97 | 0.52 |
| City Fin Assets | 85.98 | 90.25 | + 0.14 | 2.50 |
| City Fin Int | 83.27 | 88.59 | - 4.73 | 0.86 |
| Finsec Mat Cap | 367.89 | 391.37# | - 4.43 | 2.80 |
| Barclays Wrld Gth | 136.74 | 148.12 | | |
| Shar Utilities | 88.12 | 90.01 | + 1.98 | 3.53 |
| **CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300 | | | | |
| Emerging Markets | 45.32 | 48.08 | - 0.98 | |
| **CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0345 777 333 | | | | |
| American Gwth | 98.90 | 104.70 | - 1.21 | |
| Property Growth | 41.32 | 44.19 | + 0.84 | 1.57 |
| Equity High Inc | 118.72 | 125.62 | + 1.43 | 2.99 |
| do- Accum | 179.20 | 189.62 | + 2.16 | 2.99 |
| Extra Income Inc | 29.07 | 30.61# | - 0.01 | 5.81 |
| Extra Income Acc | 34.24 | 36.06 | - 0.01 | 5.81 |
| European Gwth | 62.23 | 67.02 | - 0.53 | 0.09 |
| Evergreen | 35.59 | 38.06 | + 0.15 | |
| Gearied Equity | 136.05 | 142.99 | + 1.16 | 2.24 |
| Growth & Income | 33.14 | 35.25 | + 0.25 | |
| Managed Gwth | 82.64 | 87.44 | + 0.84 | 1.39 |
| Pref Shr Cos Inc | 43.15 | 45.66 | + 0.18 | 1.27 |
| Pref Shr Cos Acc | 46.47 | 49.17 | + 0.20 | 1.27 |
| Retirement Inc # | 34.55 | 36.76 | + 0.26 | 3.01 |
| Special Sits | 95.49 | 60.74 | + 0.48 | 2.26 |
| UK & Overseas | 67.71 | 71.65 | + 0.04 | 0.46 |
| **COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| 01634 898 000 | | | | |
| Balanced | 92.28 | 95.70 | + 0.08 | 3.49 |
| Capital | 99.60 | 103.95 | - 0.12 | 1.91 |
| High Income | 97.58 | 99.97 | + 0.06 | 6.32 |
| Top 50 | 74.60 | 77.70 | + 0.37 | 1.91 |
| **COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPF FUNDS) | | | | |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| Equity Inc | 230.11 | 239.72 | - 2.61 | 4.23 |
| Long Gilt | 51.65 | 53.77# | - 0.18 | 4.77 |
| Monthly Inc Plus | 60.50 | 63.03 | + 0.05 | 7.11 |
| Preference Share | 59.01 | 61.48# | - 0.26 | 6.34 |
| Balanced Funds | | | | |
| High Yield | 169.09 | 176.15# | - 1.14 | 5.47 |
| Managed Fund | 86.11 | 89.71 | + 0.45 | 2.37 |
| UK Growth Funds | | | | |
| Smaller Cos | 52.66 | 54.86 | - 0.10 | 1.55 |
| UK Gen | 62.98 | 65.61 | - 0.12 | 1.55 |
| UK & General | 125.22 | 130.45 | + 0.65 | 2.08 |
| do- Accum | 167.61 | 174.62 | + 1.24 | 2.08 |
| UK Growth | 273.34 | 284.76 | + 0.96 | 0.47 |
| Far Eastern Gth | 90.58 | 94.36 | + 3.49 | 0.20 |
| Global Bond | 73.69 | 76.14 | - 0.39 | 5.04 |
| Global Growth | 86.97 | 90.60 | + 0.89 | |
| North Amer Gth | 305.96 | 318.74 | - 2.69 | |
| Oriental Growth | 51.84 | 54.01 | + 1.48 | 0.90 |
| Worldwide Growth | 80.44 | 83.80 | + 0.65 | 0.31 |
| OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPF FUNDS) | | | | |
| Commodities # | 92.89 | 92.89 | + 0.10 | 6.74 |
| Hammersmith Fund | 101.97 | 108.48 | + 0.71 | 1.99 |
| Quilter Fund | 175.93 | 187.16 | + 2.45 | 1.71 |
| **CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 556 8800 | | | | |
| Consistent UT | 62.43 | 45.28 | - 0.84 | 2.74 |
| **COOKE (PERRY) INV FUNDS LTD** | | | | |
| 0800 526 358 | | | | |
| Growth | 199.60 | 212.10 | + 0.60 | 1.99 |
| Income | 90.04 | 95.79 | + 0.53 | 3.58 |
| European Growth | 94.03 | 99.77 | - 0.50 | 1.01 |
| Recovery | 214.80 | 228.50 | - 0.50 | 1.85 |
| **CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 283 9494 | | | | |
| Equity Dist | 1203.20 | 1220.90# | -21.10 | 3.03 |
| **CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| 01277 680 370 | | | | |
| European Inc | 85.92 | 90.18 | - 0.59 | 0.35 |
| Fellowship Tst | 125.10 | 133.00 | + 1.70 | 1.19 |
| Income # | 343.90 | 365.80 | + 1.20 | 3.80 |
| do- Accum # | 958.40 | 1011.00 | + 3.00 | 3.84 |
| Smaller Cos | 243.30 | 258.60# | + 1.60 | 0.71 |
| do- Accum | 305.10 | 324.50 | + 2.00 | 0.71 |
| Gth Portfolio | 119.60 | 127.20 | + 0.40 | 1.24 |
| Mthly Inc Port # | 102.20 | 108.70 | + 0.40 | 3.84 |
| **DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 470 1634 | | | | |
| Global Sm Cos | 1760.10 | 1779.80 | -38.00 | 0.58 |
| UK Small Cos | 2345.30 | 2445.40# | + 6.80 | 2.81 |
| **DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS** | | | | |
| 0171 377 8819 | | | | |
| Disc Inc | 256.10 | 264.00 | - 1.00 | |
| **DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD** | | | | |
| Dealers 0171 956 7354 Client Helpline 0800 317579 | | | | |
| Formerly KBUT | | | | |
| Amer Smlr Cos | 192.00 | 204.20 | - 2.00 | |
| Asian Growth | 156.40 | 166.50 | + 5.10 | 0.46 |
| Bond Income | 110.00 | 114.10# | | 6.80 |
| European | 236.60 | 251.70 | | 0.50 |
| European Priv | 125.30 | 133.20# | - 0.70 | 0.40 |
| European Special | 163.40 | 173.80 | + 1.00 | |
| Gbl Yield | 130.60 | 137.10# | - 0.40 | 6.26 |
| Global Eqty Inc | 125.60 | 144.10 | - 0.20 | 1.80 |
| High Yield | 203.10 | 216.00# | + 3.90 | 4.30 |
| Japan | 283.10 | 301.10 | +14.90 | |
| Japanese Special | 135.00 | 134.00 | + 1.10 | |
| Money Market | 102.90 | 102.39# | + 0.10 | 5.90 |
| Monthly American | 142.10 | 148.90# | + 1.40 | |
| Smaller Cos | 166.00 | 176.50# | + 2.70 | 0.90 |
| Smlr Cos Div | 69.84 | 74.29 | - 0.12 | 3.60 |
| Tomorrows Co Eq | 1182.00 | 1260.00# | - 1.00 | 0.10 |
| UK Equity Growth | 81.61 | 85.54 | + 0.41 | 1.01 |
| UK Index Inc | 425.00 | 427.10 | + 5.00 | 2.80 |
| Berkham Tst | 112.60 | 121.00 | - 5.10 | 1.80 |
| Global Income | 252.60 | 268.70 | - 0.90 | 3.00 |
| *Formerly Thomson* | | | | |
| European | 407.20 | 435.30 | - 1.40 | 0.80 |
| Europe Bd | 39.53 | 40.93 | - 0.42 | 6.50 |
| Emerging Mkts | 852.60 | 852.90# | +14.10 | 2.60 |
| Global Eq Mkts | 71.23 | 74.58 | - 3.06 | 0.60 |
| Japan Gwth | 83.68 | 86.68 | + 3.63 | |
| Little Dragons | 69.56 | 63.41 | + 0.26 | |
| Nth Amer Gwth | 391.35 | 409.50# | - 3.50 | 0.40 |
| Oriental Income # | 34.57 | 36.15 | + 0.35 | 5.20 |
| Preference | 153.50 | 160.70 | | 7.40 |
| Yield | 166.70 | 174.50 | + 4.20 | |
| UK Filer Cos | 106.30 | 111.20# | + 2.20 | 1.40 |
| UK Growth | 826.50 | 865.30 | +17.80 | 0.80 |
| UK High Yield # | 147.70 | 154.50# | + 2.70 | 4.50 |
| Uk Mid-Cap | 392.60 | 411.20 | + 2.60 | 1.50 |
| UK Smlr Cos Div # | 91.17 | 95.46# | + 1.55 | 1.80 |
| UK Smlr Cos | 143.10 | 149.70 | + 0.70 | 0.70 |
| **EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0345 090 525 | | | | |
| Commodities # | 29.01 | 26.57 | - 0.35 | 5.27 |
| Enterprise | 123.80 | 131.20# | + 1.30 | 1.91 |
| Equity Income # | 117.90 | 189.60# | + 2.30 | 3.39 |
| European | 77.99 | 82.53# | - 0.02 | |
| Financial | 72.54 | 77.50 | - 0.63 | 1.29 |
| Growth & Inc # | 366.40 | 389.30 | + 5.70 | 2.25 |
| High Dist # | 227.00 | 240.90 | + 2.50 | 3.52 |
| International | 434.50 | 461.70 | + 1.50 | |
| Japan Gen Cos | 118.40 | 125.40# | - 0.50 | 2.14 |
| Japan Income | 92.96 | 75.04 | - 2.82 | |
| Mgd Gwth Port | 99.81 | 104.30 | | 0.67 |
| Pacific | 60.33 | 64.10 | + 1.35 | |
| Pref High Inc | 26.39 | 28.04# | - 0.08 | 6.43 |
| Tokyo | 145.30 | 152.80 | + 0.40 | |
| UK Smaller Cos | 268.50 | 285.10 | + 3.80 | 1.23 |
| Japan Sm Cos | 234.50 | 248.70 | + 3.50 | |
| Nth Amer | 537.50 | 557.80 | + 8.20 | |
| UK Inc & Gth | 329.70 | 351.80 | + 5.50 | 2.28 |
| **ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 242 0282 | | | | |
| BR Deutsche Dlrg | 125.88 | 134.06 | - 3.89 | 0.96 |
| Growth Acc | 233.54 | 244.59 | | 0.70 |
| Income | 564.24 | 710.65 | - 9.24 | 5.24 |
| **ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 373 7281 | | | | |
| Endurance Fd | 244.70 | 260.30 | - 6.70 | 0.96 |
| **EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD** | | | | |
| 01296 431 480 | | | | |
| European | 115.30 | 121.37 | - 1.09 | 1.39 |
| Ethical Fd | 94.61 | 99.48# | - 0.50 | 0.95 |
| Far Eastern | 102.56 | 108.33 | - 0.58 | 0.23 |
| High Income | 178.51 | 187.91 | + 2.47 | 3.85 |
| UP Index Tracking | 98.05 | 71.63 | + 1.52 | 2.30 |
| Intl Growth | 133.71 | 140.75 | - 0.88 | 1.43 |
| North American | 191.32 | 203.49 | + 1.35 | 1.30 |
| Pension | 191.73 | 191.29 | + 2.89 | 2.39 |
| Smaller Cos | 76.73 | 80.77 | + 0.30 | 2.23 |
| Special Sits | 92.47 | 97.34 | + 0.19 | 2.76 |
| Tst of Inv Tsts | 275.92 | 249.34 | - 0.27 | 1.63 |
| **EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD** | | | | |
| 01392 412 144 | | | | |
| Capital Growth | 143.78 | 152.55 | + 1.49 | |
| Fd of Inv Tsts | 59.44 | 63.07# | - 0.26 | 0.46 |
| High Income # | 45.37 | 48.11# | + 0.37 | 10.42 |
| Man & Gl Opps | 53.56 | 57.60 | - 0.31 | |
| Zero Preference | 43.65 | 32.68# | + 0.29 | |
| **FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 01273 774 579 | | | | |
| Family Asset Tst | 121.50 | 129.20# | + 0.50 | 2.06 |
| United Charities | 353.70 | 375.20 | + 1.10 | 2.19 |
| **FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD** | | | | |
| Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 181 | | | | |
| Cash Fund | | | | |
| Cash Fund | 100.00 | 100.00 | | 6.90 |
| Bond Funds: | | | | |
| Int Bond | 36.68 | 37.86 | - 0.06 | 5.29 |
| Strategic Inc | 30.70 | 32.07# | - 0.01 | 5.30 |
| Income Funds | | | | |
| High Income | 32.12 | 33.71# | + 0.19 | 4.66 |
| Income Plus | 175.60 | 186.80 | + 2.20 | 3.73 |
| European Income | 63.06 | 66.96 | + 0.14 | 1.66 |
| Manchester Gwth | 40.67 | 42.99 | + 0.55 | 2.52 |
| Export Funds | | | | |
| ASEAN | 24.46 | 26.10 | + 1.81 | |
| American | 424.60 | 450.60 | + 2.20 | |
| Amer Spec Sits | 200.90 | 208.40 | + 0.30 | |
| Japan Smaller Cos | 17.21 | 18.28 | + 0.20 | |
| European | 297.60 | 316.50 | - 1.90 | 0.36 |
| European Opps | 110.90 | 117.80 | - 0.30 | 0.49 |
| Global Priv | 39.88 | 41.13 | - 0.21 | 0.49 |
| UP Growth | 152.90 | 162.80 | + 2.20 | 1.16 |
| Growth & Inc | 229.90 | 244.10# | + 3.40 | 2.46 |
| Intl PEP | 69.24 | 64.06 | + 0.46 | 1.08 |
| Japan Spec Sits | 58.26 | 61.76 | + 2.41 | |
| Japan | 152.40 | 161.40 | + 0.40 | |
| Managed Intl | 427.70 | 454.30 | + 1.10 | 0.56 |
| Shareholder Plus | 78.57 | 77.11 | - 0.51 | 0.34 |
| Recovery | 68.83 | 73.19 | - 0.80 | 1.87 |
| South E Asia | 128.66 | 136.00 | - 1.20 | 1.52 |
| Special Sits | 934.10 | 993.30 | + 1.90 | 1.14 |
| Specialist Funds: | | | | |
| Cash Account Units | 123.16 | 123.16 | + 0.13 | 6.90 |
| **FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| 0171 374 2700 | | | | |
| Balanced # | 164.30 | 165.70 | - 4.80 | 1.67 |
| Fidelity Pfd Inc # | 112.90 | 113.80 | | 5.64 |
| Gen Platts | 68.30 | 69.80# | - 1.40 | |
| General Depn | 245.50 | 258.00 | - 2.60 | 3.22 |
| Gilt & Fxd Int Inc | 28.75 | 29.90# | - 0.09 | 1.37 |
| High Yield # | 142.40 | 150.00 | + 0.80 | 2.67 |
| Income # | 1856.00 | 1934.00 | + 11.00 | 1.56 |
| Special Sits | 156.00 | 158.10# | - 0.80 | 1.92 |
| High Yield | 1899.00 | 1958.00 | + 8.00 | 3.61 |
| **FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT** | | | | |
| Dlg 01277 680 388 Admin/Fax# 01277 680 350 | | | | |
| Euro Smlr Cos | 175.60 | 186.30 | - 1.50 | |
| High Income | 92.53 | 23.86# | + 0.05 | 9.42 |
| Japan Smlr Cos | 71.29 | 72.15 | + 0.22 | |
| US Smaller Cos | 539.40 | 572.30 | - 2.20 | |
| **FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD** | | | | |
| Emg 01277 680 8500 Dealing: 0345 775511 | | | | |
| American Growth | 104.10 | 110.20 | - 1.50 | |
| do- Accum | 104.10 | 110.20 | - 1.50 | |
| Asian Smlr Cos | 754.40 | 800.30 | -15.60 | |
| do- Accum | 778.76 | 822.50 | -16.00 | |
| Capital Tst | 432.70 | 449.70 | + 0.90 | 1.36 |
| do- Accum | 559.40 | 593.60 | + 1.20 | 1.36 |
| Confl Smlr Cos | 65.78 | 70.22 | - 0.62 | |
| do- Accum | 70.58 | 75.35 | - 0.67 | |
| Convertible | 146.40 | 155.70# | - 1.20 | 5.38 |
| do- Accum | 340.20 | 361.50# | - 2.80 | 5.38 |
| Emerging Markets | 53.47 | 57.13# | - 0.01 | 0.07 |
| do- Accum | 53.53 | 57.62# | - 0.06 | 0.07 |
| European | 192.80 | 204.40 | - 1.00 | |
| do- Accum | 205.10 | 217.30 | - 1.20 | |
| Extra Income | 476.90 | 507.20# | - 2.40 | 3.99 |
| do- Accum | 754.30 | 845.00# | - 5.30 | 3.99 |
| Financial | 246.50 | 261.20 | - 0.30 | 0.94 |
| do- Accum | 283.00 | 279.80 | - 0.30 | 0.94 |
| Gilt Trust | 84.66 | 86.61 | - 0.11 | 7.04 |
| do- Accum | 106.40 | 108.80 | - 0.30 | 7.04 |
| Health Fund Inc | 280.30 | 298.20 | - 0.20 | |
| do- Accum | 280.30 | 298.20 | - 6.20 | |
| Income & Growth | 275.70 | 293.20 | + 0.90 | 3.77 |
| do- Accum | 459.90 | 488.10 | + 0.50 | 3.77 |
| Intl Growth | 458.20 | 487.60 | + 5.10 | |
| Japan Gwth | 341.40 | 363.20 | + 6.00 | |
| Japan & Gen | 122.90 | 130.40 | + 6.00 | |
| do- Accum | 124.10 | 131.70 | + 6.10 | |
| Monthly Inc # | 242.10 | 257.50# | + 0.90 | 3.98 |
| Pacific Basin | 252.10 | 268.30# | + 1.10 | 3.98 |
| Managed Pen Inc | 131.78 | 139.60 | - 0.50 | 1.29 |
| do- Accum | 144.89 | 152.49 | - 0.45 | 1.29 |
| Quarterly Income # | 94.73 | 99.23 | + 0.16 | 5.17 |
| do- Accum # | 78.44 | 83.67 | + 0.13 | 5.17 |
| Recovery | 302.70 | 323.70# | + 2.80 | |
| do- Accum | 357.30 | 382.10# | + 3.40 | |
| UK Growth | 76.37 | 81.14 | + 0.10 | 1.76 |
| do- Accum | 84.27 | 89.65 | + 0.11 | 1.79 |
| **FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS** | | | | |
| Dealing 01722 715855 Enq 01722 715804 | | | | |
| FP American | 80.08 | 

هكذا من الأصل





**JUGGLING ACT 57**

Difficult decisions as annuity rates keep falling

# WEEKEND MONEY

**HARD TIMES 52**

Why homeowners are set for big bills soon



# The shrinking world of inflation

**Patrick Collinson** on why some economists say we may be heading towards deflation

Every child born in the UK since the war has been an inflation baby, growing up in a world of ever-rising prices. But today's children could well be the first generation of deflation babies, if the fears of a growing band of economists come true. Could *inflation, like* Oliver Hardy with his ever widening waistline be replaced by deflation, a Stan Laurel who cannot gain a pound?

The deflation doomsters are a new breed. Last year City pundits were predicting the return of inflation, with consumer spending turbocharged by £35 billion in windfalls and signs of labour shortages emerging in the UK and the US.

How does this square with talk of deflation? Economists are dividing into three camps — inflation hawks, who see no sign of falling prices, "new paradigm" economists hailing a benign low-inflation environment, and those that forecast a deflationary spiral, which could see the the global economy revisiting the 1930s slump. The trigger for the debate has been *the Asian crisis. This is* expected to slow world growth and spur Asian exporters to swamp Western markets with cheap goods in a bid to raise badly-needed US dollars.

Alan Greenspan, US Federal Reserve chairman,raised the prospect of deflation in a speech this month but did not predict that deflation is about to take place. But his mere utterance of the D-word was taken as a tip-off to analysts that inflation risks have subsided.

Roger Bootle, HSBC chief economist was one of the early prophets of a world without inflation. His book *The Death of Inflation* details the promises, and the perils, of the zero era for consumers. What could happen to your savings and investments if deflation were to take hold?

## SALARIES

Pay would rise in line with economic growth, suggesting increases of just 2-3 per cent pa, in line with UK's assumed trend growth rate. Low interest rates may, however, raise the trend growth rate and improve the pay outlook.

## MORTGAGES

Inflation destroys the cost of servicing a mortgage, as any 1970s housebuyer knows to his glee. But zero inflation and low wage rises could keep the cost of servicing a loan a big burden for years to come. Locking into a 7 per cent long-term fixed rate may also be very costly if interest rates fall. Renting will no longer be the foolish option it was in the 1970s and 1980s.

## HOUSE PRICES

Deflation could spell the end of the British love affair with housing speculation. The early 1990s house price fall was not the first; prices fell persistently in the 1930s and briefly in the early 1950s. Mr Bootle thinks there will be "a good chance house prices will be lower because of the demise of inflation and may not rise much afterwards, but no collapse in prices." But he does not rule out a downward price spiral.

## PENSIONS

If the level of prices starts to fall, it would be a nightmare for the pension industry. Companies may not be able to meet pension commitments if returns from investments fall and pension schemes become seriously underfunded.

## ANNUITIES

As interest rates fall under zero inflation, annuity rates will fall, although their real post-inflation value should remain intact.

## INTEREST RATES

Index-linked bonds give an indication of interest rates when there is no change in the value of money. These suggest interest rates could fall to 3-4 per cent. But Howard Flight, Guinness Flight Hambro deputy chairman, says the lesson of the 19th century is that real interest rates averaged just 2.5 per cent. He believes that once the UK economy has slowed, rates will be cut aggressively to force sterling down to help exporters.

## GILTS AND BONDS

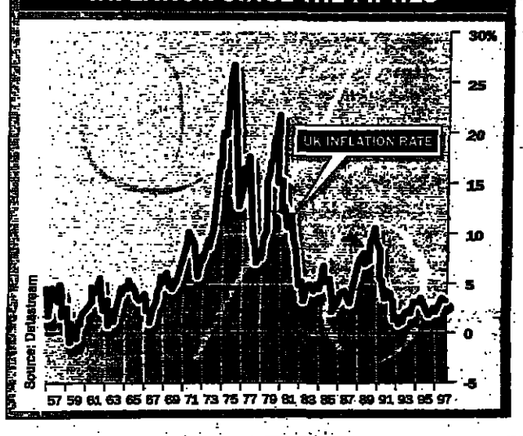
An adjustment to zero inflation suggests huge capital gains for long-term bondholders. Mr Flight forecasts 10-year bond yields at below 5 per cent from their current 6 per cent but Simon Briscoe, Nikko Securities' economist, said: "It's difficult for the market to set new bond yield lows — it makes people nervous. There is a tendency to revert to the mean at some time, and periods when investors say enough is enough. It happened in 1994 when yields went too low."

## EQUITIES

Shares have been an inflation hedge, but Mr Bootle believes they will also remain the only place for decent long-term returns. Low returns on cash and bonds also suggest higher shares investment.



## INFLATION SINCE THE FIFTIES




## PROSPECTS FOR DEFLATION

■ Flexible labour markets, weakened trade unions and the open world economy are capping price pressures in the West.

■ Input prices of raw materials and commodities are falling fast. But companies' pricing power — the ability to raise prices and make the price rise stick — is very low, keeping prices in the shops low.

■ Technology is becoming universalised and, via the Internet, consumers can shop globally for the best prices.

■ Over-investment in manufacturing capacity in the East. There is worldwide evidence of falling prices of consumer durables. "Food prices fell dramatically in the last slump. This time it will be manufactures," said Mr Flight.

■ Japan, the world's second largest economy, is experiencing enormous deflationary problems. "The risk of outright deflation emerging thoughout much of the global economy has been acceleated by the slide in numerous Asian economies," said Tokai Bank Europe.

■ European monetary union — forcing fiscal discipline on the "ClubMed" countries, increasing taxes and cutting spending — is inherently deflationary.

## PROSPECTS FOR STABILITY

■ Lower Asian demand is likely to be offset by lower Western interest rates.

■ The Asian spillover will cause limited damage, and growth outlook outside Asia is not fundamentally disturbed. J P Morgan said: "Currently strong domestic indicators — housing, employment, consumer spending and confidence — should barely miss a beat in the US and should continue to improve in Europe."

■ Disinflation is more likely than deflation. UK GDP growth will slow severely as the impact of sterling's strength feeds through and consumer spending will fall back, as windfall spending fades, inhibiting inflationary pressures. In the US, confidence is growing that inflation is under control. Chase Securities said: "Recent wage rises are not likely to be inflationary."

■ Economies will slow down, but a slump is not forecast. "If overheating fears were misplaced, so are current fears about an extremely sharp slowdown. The world will remain a disinflationary place ... what seems improbable, however, is that deflation takes hold. There seems no prospect of recession at present," says Ian Harwood, of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson.

## PROSPECTS FOR INFLATION

■ The UK has enjoyed a long economic upswing. Unemployment has fallen and wages are beginning to creep upwards.

■ No risk of 1970s-style inflation, but the strength of the domestic economy is creating inflationary pressures.

■ The impact of the Asian crisis will be ringfenced in the Far East and have little impact on Britain.

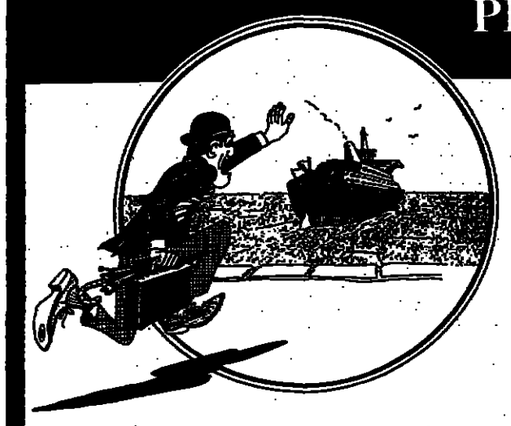
■ Interest rates will have to rise to choke off inflationary pressures.

■ Richard Jeffrey, group economist at Charterhouse, said: "It is important that interest rates should move up. If not, UK inflation will pick up. Domestic costs and wage costs are the biggest influence on prices, and will decimate any potential deflationary impact from Asia. Roger Bootle might dream of deflation, but it is not evident. There is inflation around and you can see it quite simply in retail prices."

■ However, British share prices may maintain support because the leading investors in the UK stock market — the pension funds — already have large cash balances and are unlikely to want to move further out of shares and into cash.


SIMPLY THE BEST

PEP discounts in the UK



- We are a **DISCOUNT BROKER** which means we rebate to investors the commissions of up to 5% charged when you buy direct or through conventional brokers. **From 1st February 1998 to 5th April 1998 our normal £25 handling fee will be waived.**
- We are **INDEPENDENT**, so we offer a huge range of investment options from all the UK's leading investment companies.
- We are **HIGHLY EXPERIENCED** – Elson Associates has been established since 1987 and over 40,000 clients come to us to arrange their PEPS.
- We offer **PERSONAL SERVICE** in a way that continues to reflect our family-founded origins.
- We aim to offer the **HIGHEST PEP DISCOUNTS IN THE UK**. As volume dealers in PEPs, we are able to negotiate the very best terms for our clients.

Don't miss the boat!

Applications for 1997/98 PEPs must be received at our offices by 2nd April 1998 at the latest.

Opening a new PEP?
Unhappy with the performance of your existing PEP?
Looking for reduced charges?

For further information, cut out and return the coupon below to Elson Associates, FREEPOST DT1138, 18 Maxwell Road, Welling, Kent DA16 1BR or alternatively call us free on

☎ 0500 691790 ☎

www.elson.iii.co.uk

ELSON ASSOCIATES

Name .....
Address ..... Postcode .....
.....
I am particularly interested in a ..... (company) PEP.
Please send me the relevant application form together with the discount information

The value of investments and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Current tax levels and reliefs will depend on your individual circumstances. From 6th April 1999 tax credits will not be reclaimable on PEPs. The Government published a consultative document in December 1997 on proposals for Individual Savings Accounts (ISA's) to be launched in April 1999. The terms and limits for converting an existing PEP into an ISA are being considered as part of the consultation. We do not offer advice as to the suitability of the investments you buy through us. If you have any doubt whether an investment is suitable for you, you should obtain expert advice.



The value of shares and any income from them can go down as well as up. Tax concessions are not guaranteed, their value will depend on individual circumstances. It will not be possible to continue investment in a PEP after April 1999 when the Government plans to introduce Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs). Threadneedle Investment Services Limited, Authorised Corporate Director and Unit Trust Manager. Threadneedle Portfolio Services Limited, PEP Manager. Regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. Members of the Allied Dunbar and Threadneedle marketing group. *Source AUTIF; unit trust groups by total fund value at 31.10.97. †Funds under management 30.9.97.

Threadneedle. Security.

In the changing face of tax-free investments.

Threadneedle is a major new force in tax-free investments. But we're already a top ten UK investment fund manager* and part of one of Europe's largest financial services organisations, taking care of more than £35 billion for our investors.†

Our success is based on our commitment to delivering consistent, strong returns and our determination to offer products and services at the leading edge of new developments. And now we are leading the way as the only UK company to offer a comprehensive open-ended investment company (OEIC) based PEP, so giving our investors real choice and value for money.

Talk to your financial adviser about Threadneedle Investments or call free on 0500 600 566 now for more information.

The future of tax-free investments is set to change –
with Threadneedle your investments are in safe hands.



Threadneedle investments

# Bonds defy Eastern threat

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Securities houses and trust companies find it hard to be bearish about shares for long. "Buy my fund, it's going down" is not a great marketing ploy. Behind the scenes, however, many are gloomy about equities.

Wall Street has been sustaining the rest of the Western world's stock markets while those in Japan and East Asia have been collapsing. The early January Merrill Lynch survey covered American fund managers responsible for $2,000 billion of investments. Almost half thought US shares overvalued and none thought they were cheap. Naturally, they claimed to be net sellers.

In the UK and Japan, although opinions were less clear-cut, buyers are going off the idea fast. Only in Continental Europe, where economic growth has been picking up, was much enthusiasm shown for local markets.

Chart analysts, who are freer to be forthright, are nervous. Robin Griffiths of HSBC James Capel says that plans for making money should come second to preserving what you have. The combined world index peaked in August at the end of a long bull market. "Something different is now going on". Sit on cash for bargains later, he advises.

That may well prove sensible. But experts are not always right. Japanese managers are gloomier about Tokyo than at any time since March, just before a short-term recovery pushed the Nikkei index up 15 per cent in three months. US fund managers were heavier sellers of Wall Street stocks for most of 1997 until the summer peak, when they briefly turned buyers. And the composite world share index is not such a useful guide when trends in East and West are so different. Since last June, London and Wall Street prices have gained about 4 per cent. The Tokyo index dropped a quarter and most Asia markets were worse.

Asia's confidence crisis is making Western ditherers bearish. It must hit the West either short term via financial markets or longer term via falling world growth and export markets.

The other main influence has been the huge demand for bonds. Long-term interest rates are falling as fears of inflation in America, Britain and continental Europe fade. Investors believe that continuing growth can be achieved with stable prices.

The interplay between these two forces is critical. At the end of October, Wall Street, London and Frankfurt all tumbled in response to the first equity collapse in Hong Kong. To general surprise, Western markets then bounced back confidently in days, much as Tokyo did in 1987. Western markets may still be infected with a new strain of Asian flu, but they are resistant. Instead, the first impact is to reassure investors about inflation. Oriental slump is cutting commodity prices and will flood the world with cheap exports, further curbing any inflationary tendencies in the West. Short-term interest rates are less likely to rise. Long-term interest rates should fall even further, perhaps by a full point. No wonder British and American fund managers claim to be keen buyers of bonds.

They forgot that rising bond prices have kept shares going for some time now, in the face of shrinking growth of company earnings. In the short-term, the more they force up bond prices, the cheaper shares will appear by comparison and the less likely they are to fall.

Further ahead, the West cannot avoid influences from the most dynamic third of the world economy, unless Asian tigers bounce back quickly. The signs are not good. The IMF and like-minded speculators are imposing deflation on Asian economies when, in key cases, this will prolong the agony. And the West is likely to bar cheap imports from countries with devalued currencies. Last week, the EU warned Japan to expect trouble if it tried to export itself out of recession.

Instead, Asia will export an economic slowdown. This time, it might well hit the multinationals that dominate the FTSE-100 or the Dow-Jones average more than, for instance, domestically-oriented service companies. Interest rates may fall even further.

Savers are rarely well advised to job in and out of shares but if you are thinking about investing in one more Pep, corporate bonds look the best bet.

**Lizanne Rose** explains why homeowners are set for big bills soon

# Mortgage misery for many in the pipeline



MARC ASPLAND

It may not come to this but home loan rises will cause hardship

Mortgage payments could be going up by as much as 20 per cent in the next few weeks. For a borrower with a typical £50,000 repayment mortgage, this means costs will jump by £43-plus a month.

More than two million homeowners are facing this sharp increase in monthly mortgage repayments as the new rates for borrowers on annual review schemes are announced.

So far, these borrowers have been protected from the five interest rate rises that have been imposed since Labour came to power because their mortgage payments were fixed at the beginning of 1997.

Under the annual review schemes, operated by most big lenders, mortgage interest rates are adjusted only once a year and so borrowers are unaffected by any fluctuation in interest rates in the intervening 12-month period. But the coming weeks will see the arrival of mortgage bills that are significantly higher than last year and that will remain unchanged until 1999.

Next month, the Halifax will be mailing its one million customers who are under annual review, alerting them to the approach of higher rates. The new rate for the next 12 months will be fixed by the Halifax at the end of January and will take effect on April 1.

The rise from 7.25 per cent to 8.7 per cent will come as a financial shock to many homeowners. A Halifax customer with a £60,000 interest-only mortgage would have been paying £335.33 a month since last April. From April this year, an additional £80.71 a month will have to be found to pay the new figure of £416.04.

Homeowners will not only have to cope with soaring mortgage payments, but also the reduction in Miras that was announced by Gordon Brown in the last Budget and comes into effect on April 6. Tax relief on mortgage interest will be cut from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

Norwich and Peterborough has delayed its annual review by one month, aware of the increased financial burden on homeowners. Instead of its new rate starting on March 1, the first increased payment will be made on April 1. This means that customers will face only one change in payment instead of two — the new bill will take into account both the reduction in Miras and the higher interest rate.

Banks and building societies find it beneficial to adjust mortgage payments annually because it saves them the job of changing payments every time the base rate rises, and cuts administration and mailing costs. Both the Nationwide and the Halifax offer customers the choice at any stage to come under the annual review scheme, but borrowers are not locked-in and can revert back to monthly adjustments without restriction or penalty.

For the borrower, being under an annual review scheme means budgeting is easier because you know exactly what you will pay each month and planning can be made for the year ahead.

But lenders are concerned that in spite of careful saving, many homeowners may find themselves unprepared for the extra bills as household budgets are squeezed further. One building society warned customers as early as last September of the increased payments for 1998.

The Norwich and Peterborough advised its 28,500 annual review customers of the changes in writing last September and offered them the chance to make advanced payments, feeling that it was its "responsibility" to do so. Norwich and Peterborough homeowners will discover that their mortgage interest rate has increased by 1.11 per cent to 8.1 per cent when their first payment is deducted on April 1.

Unless there is another base rate rise before the end of January, Nationwide's new rate will also be fixed at 8.10 per cent. Some 300,000 customers will be affected, around a third of Nationwide's borrowers, when payments commence on February 1.

The annual review for 250,000 Abbey National borrowers also takes effect in February and mortgage statements are being sent out now. The bank calculated its new 8.7 per cent rate from the prevailing rate at December 31, 1997. This works out at an increase of 1.41 per cent.

For the 250,000 Bradford & Bingley customers under annual review, from February 1, the new rate will be 8.45 per cent, compared with 6.99 per cent last year. Being under annual review is automatic for Bradford & Bingley borrowers, although it is possible to request otherwise.

Although customers under annual review will pay more in some years and less in others, compared with borrowers not in the scheme, this counterbalances over a 25-year term. Because of the large number of base rate rises in 1997, most annual review scheme homeowners will have been underpaying during this period. If there is another base rate rise in the spring, they are likely to be underpaying again in 1998.


The Index-Tracking PEP

WHAT MAKES LEGAL & GENERAL'S FTSE ALL-SHARE INDEX-TRACKING PEP OUTSTANDING VALUE FOR MONEY?

A glance at the table will show that – since its launch over two years ago – this Index-Tracking PEP from Legal & General has proved that it offers PEP investors superb value for money.

It follows the FTSE All-Share Index. This Index reflects the performance of the entire stock-market, so it reduces the risk of being over-exposed to shares which under-perform and lessen your return. In fact, a lump sum of £6,000 invested in the Legal & General Index-Tracking PEP at launch would now be worth £9,111* compared to just £8,438* in the average UK Income & Growth Trust.

NO INITIAL CHARGES
0.5% ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE
NO WITHDRAWAL FEE

With no initial charges deducted, more of your money is invested at the outset for maximum growth potential, there are no withdrawal fees and with an annual management charge of 0.5% – the value for money is outstanding.

So make the most of today's opportunities. For further details (including information on our monthly saving option) call now or visit our web site at http://www.legal-and-general.co.uk

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE SINCE LAUNCH* NOV 95 TO JAN 98

| | Initial Charge | Growth |
|---|---|---|
| Legal & General | 0.50% | 51.86% |
| Gartmore | 1.00% | 50.14% |
| Virgin | 1.00% | 49.64% |
| Dresdner RCM | 1.00% | 49.59% |
| Average UK Income & Growth Trust | — | 40.64% |

The All-Share Tracking PEP that's charged the least, has performed the best

NO COST LEGAL & GENERAL ISA CONVERSION †

Find out more now – phone free 0500 11 66 22

FREEPHONE 8am TO 8pm WEEKDAYS 9am TO 5pm WEEKENDS. PLEASE QUOTE REF: C4DL05

For your protection and to enable us to deal with any queries that may arise calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.

YES – I would like more information about the Legal & General Index-Tracking PEP. Post to: Legal & General (Direct) Limited, FREEPOST SWC0467, Cardiff CF1 1YW.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) Forenames

Address

Postcode Date of birth / /

Tel. No: Home Tel. No: Work

If you already have any PEP investment, please tick here ☐. C4DL03

We may telephone you to make sure information requested has arrived safely. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick here ☐

Legal & General

†Subject to Government regulation. *Source: Micropal/LGIM, on an offer to bid basis based on all PEP charges with gross income re-invested from 01.11.95 (since launch) to 12.01.98. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. From 06.04.99 tax credits will no longer be able to be reclaimed by PEPs investing in equity based unit trusts. Both capital and income values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. All comparisons of cost apply to PEPs investing wholly in unit trusts. Full written details are available on request. All statements are correct as at 12.01.98. The Government published a consultative document in December 1997 on proposals for Individual Savings Accounts (ISA's) to be launched in April 1999. The terms and limits for converting an existing PEP into an ISA are being considered as part of the consultation. Legal & General (Direct) Limited. Registered in England No. 2702080. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP. Representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name.



It's tax-free but it's not a PEP or a TESSA

The Family Bond

- £15 or £25 a month invested tax-free.
- Annual or lump-sum options available.*
- Returns paid out tax-free.
- Extra benefits when your family buys two or more Bonds
- Built-in life cover with no medical required.

* You may incur a tax liability if you select the lump sum option.

Call FREE for more information on 0800 616695

Please quote the request code below.

Or fill in the coupon below and send it to: Family Assurance Friendly Society Limited, FREEPOST 2206, Brighton BN1 2BR.

Please remember that investment values can fall as well as rise. The Family Bond is free of income and capital gains tax.

Family Assurance Friendly Society Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and is incorporated under the Friendly Societies Act 1992 (Reg. No.939F).

LEADING THE WAY IN FAMILY FINANCE

Please send me more information on the Family Bond.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (first name) (surname)

Address

Postcode

Tel Date of Birth / /

If you wish to receive information on the Junior Bond, a tax-free savings plan for children under 16 then please tick this box. ☐

Send the coupon to: Family Assurance Friendly Society Limited, FREEPOST 2206, 16-17 West Street, Brighton BN1 2BR.

We may send information to you about other products offered by the Society. If you do not wish to receive this information please tick this box. ☐

We may telephone you as part of our customer service programme. If you do not wish to be contacted in this way please tick this box. ☐

REQUEST CODE 14835


...9116, telephone 0151-54n 2000. Saturday: January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الإصل



# A pig's ear of pension reform



ANNE ASHWORTH
*Personal Finance Editor*

The complexities of the benefits debate may make you want to run squealing for cover, like one of the Tamworth Two. But though it may be more entertaining to dwell on the antics of fugitive pigs, the future of the basic state pension is a subject that people of all ages should find compelling.

The Prime Minister has stated that the basic pension will remain "the foundation for security in retirement". This is intended to reassure those who survive almost entirely on the state pension but also those who treat it as a vital extra. It is easy to see the £62.45 a week payment as a trifle, but to buy a pension annuity paying out an equivalent index-linked income, a single male would need a lump sum of some £42,800. This rises to about £57,500 for a woman and to £91,500 or so for a married man whose wife will receive a pension based on his National Insurance contributions.

By way of comparison, the average personal pension saver has, at retirement, accumulated a fund of no more than £30,000. Even more prosperous people assiduously shopping around for the best annuity deal have typically about £100,000. During their working lives, both types of retiree would have been hard pressed to make the extra savings necessary to replace the state pension.

We could choose to be entirely comforted by Tony Blair's statement and begin to muse once more not on pension figures but on the number of times "pigs will fly" can be worked into a headline. But this would be shortsighted. Everyone who wishes to live well in retirement should now be urging the Government not to allow the formulation of its pension policy to be as long drawn out as the deliberations over benefits. In particular, the Government should reveal whether it intends to make pension contributions compulsory, as intimated this week by Frank Field, Welfare Reform Minister.

While this would be an excellent solution to the problem of the nation's deplorably low provision for old age, compulsion must be accompanied by certain guarantees. Having already withdrawn one set of pension tax breaks, the Chancellor might use enforced pension investment as an excuse to remove other valuable pension reliefs, calculating that we no longer needed incentives to put money aside. On the contrary, we will need every available concession. Obliging us to save more will not help, if returns on investments are reduced as a result of the disappearance of inducements.

**Gavin Lumsden** on the fixed-rate mortgage facility leaving borrowers aghast

# The Rock and a hard place



GRAHAM COX/SWNS

Sean Taggart expected to be offered a more competitive rate

Homeowners with low fixed-rate mortgages often get a nasty shock when the fixed term ends and their loan switches to the lender's variable rate, pushing up their monthly payments dramatically. A few years ago Northern Rock appeared to offer a solution when it became the first lender to offer a "fixed rate renewal facility". The feature is still unique and enables borrowers to apply for a new fixed rate when their old one expires.

Unfortunately, borrowers who accepted the offer are in for a shock. The Rock is offering borrowers who took out a 4.89 per cent two-year fix at the end of 1995 a new offer of 8.45 per cent for two years. This is just 0.25 per cent off the lender's standard variable rate at a time when interest rates are widely predicted to be near their peak. Far from saving money, borrowers who took this could end up paying more if rates fall. On top of this Northern Rock charges a £195 *administration* fee to fix again, and the loan will still have three years to run when the second fix ends in 1999. Meanwhile, Northern Rock is still offering great deals to new customers: two-year fixes between 3.99 per cent and 4.99 per cent.

This has angered Sean Taggart, 33, managing director of a travel company. In October 1995 he accepted the 4.89 per cent deal for his £85,000 mortgage on his home in Maidstone, Kent, adding the £180 survey and £295 administration fees to the loan. "At the time it was not the best offer available. However, Northern Rock was the only lender to give you the option of fixing again."

Warning bells started ringing for Mr Taggart last November when he received a letter from Northern Rock reminding him that the fixed term was about to end and that the standard variable rate of 8.7 per cent would apply from February. There was no mention of another fix. Alarmed, Mr Taggart rang his financial adviser who contacted Northern Rock. The lender confirmed he could fix for another two years but at 8 per cent, subsequently raising this to 8.45 per cent as interest rates rose.

Mr Taggart was incredulous: "I accept they have to make money, but I was expecting something in the region of 6.5 or 7 per cent."

Northern Rock insisted its offer of 8.45 per cent was competitive. Mr Taggart, it said, had benefited from a heavily subsidised product for two years and was able to fix for a further two years or move to its variable rate. A spokesman said: "We have acted fairly in this matter and are honouring the terms of the contract which Mr Taggart entered into." He said the loan had been equivalent to a four-year fix of 6.67 per cent.

The lender added: "The terms and conditions of this particular product stated that Northern Rock's prevailing variable base mortgage rate would apply on maturity of the loan but there would be *the facility to apply for another fixed rate loan at the rates then prevailing for existing borrowers.*"

# Last hurrah for Tessa thanks to Midshires

Tessa may only have 15 months to live, but she will not go quietly. Although tax-exempt savings accounts will no longer be on sale from April 1999, savers are benefiting from a last wave of competition before the tax shelter is replaced by the individual savings account (Isa).

This week saw the launch of a Tessa for the over 50s designed by Birmingham Midshires Building Society for Saga Investment Direct Limited, a group specialising in financial products for the 50s and over.

The initial rate of 7.75 per cent a year is one of the highest rates currently available. Birmingham Midshires Building Society also guarantees that the interest rate will never fall below the average.

Lesley Hankin, deputy business manager for Saga Investment Direct Limited, said: "There is still a lot of demand for Tessas from our customers. It's one of the products our customers always ask for. With our underlying guarantee we can benefit our customers who are in less of a position to take risks."

Tessa's twilight years also look like a good time for ethical investors. Triodos Bank, an ethical bank which lends to projects such as Café Direct, the fair deal coffee company, has just increased the interest rate for its green Tessa to 7.5 per cent, one of the best returns for green and ethical Tessas.

Glen Saunders, Triodos Bank managing director said: "With the introduction of Isas in April 1999, this is a good time to start one if you don't already have one. Rates are higher than ever."

About 4.5 million people have tucked away a total of £30 billion into a Tessa since the scheme was launched seven years ago.

Savers may not be able to open a Tessa after April 1999, but Tessa holders will be able to pay into their accounts for the full five years until their savings *mature*. Savers will then be allowed to move the capital but not the interest into an Isa. The transfer will count towards the £50,000 lifetime limit on Isa contributions proposed by the Government.

Anybody over the age of 18 and resident in the UK can squirrel away up to £9,000 into a Tessa over five years, contributing a total of £3,000 in the first year, £1,800 in the second, third and fourth years and £600 in the final year. Alternatively, savers can deposit £1,800 each year for five years. Either way the current arrangement is much more generous than the Isa's limit of £1,000 a year.

Interest will continue to be tax-free as long as no withdrawals are made during the full five years. But if any money is taken out, the whole plan loses its tax-free status.

SUSAN EMMETT

# Gold card holders look to platinum

Gold card holders have lost their Midas touch and those looking for exclusivity might be moving up the precious metal scale to platinum (Susan Emmett writes).

RBS Advanta, the credit card company, yesterday launched Platinum Reserve, the first Platinum MasterCard in Europe. It is intended to corner the exclusive market. Mark Austin, RBS Advanta marketing manager, said: "Our research shows that gold cards have lost some of their attraction. There has been an explosion in the number of gold cards, and consumers' expectations are moving along."

In less than two years the card company has recruited more than 500,000 customers and RBS Advanta estimates that there are potentially one million people who would be interested in the types of services offered by platinum cards.

The Platinum Reserve offers two levels of service. Both come with an introductory rate of 7.9 per cent APR until January 1999 after which the rate will be 17.9 per cent APR. There is an interest-free period of 56 days and those opting for the standard service pay no annual fee.

However, for £120 a year, customers have the benefit of the Five Star Service. This includes expert travel assistance, access to more than 200 airport executive lounges, regardless of the class of ticket, and additional insurance cover.

Platinum cards are popular in the US, but the only cards to offer similar services in Britain are the American Express Platinum Card and the Coutts Signia Card. They charge £375 and £250 respectively.

HENDERSON INVESTORS INVESTMENT TRUST SHARE PLAN

Awards

Why you can't ignore the big player in investment trusts.

Henderson Investors has won the Micropal 'Best Investment Trust Manager' award for consistent investment performance for each of the last three years. We have also just been voted 'Investment Trust Group of the Year' 1997 by Investment Week magazine (in association with Bloomberg and the Express newspapers).

**Free Share Dealing Offer**

And if you invest a lump sum before 28 February 1998, you can take advantage of our free share dealing offer. This means you can invest a lump sum in our Investment Trust Share Plan without paying our standard 1% dealing charge.

So now you'll be able to benefit from our award winning performance even more cost effectively.

For a free brochure on our Share Plan scheme, cut out the coupon, or call (at local rate).

Then you'll see why the big player is also a big winner.

0345 88 11 44

(Quoting ref: Share Plan 98/1. Lines open 9.30am - 6.30pm Monday to Saturday. Answerphone service operates outside these hours.)

Free share dealing until 28 February 1998

To: Investor Services, Henderson Investors, FREEPOST, Newbury RG14 2ZZ. Please send me further details on Henderson Investors Investment Trust Share Plan. Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive information about other Henderson Investors products and services. ☐

Title Initial(s) Surname

Address

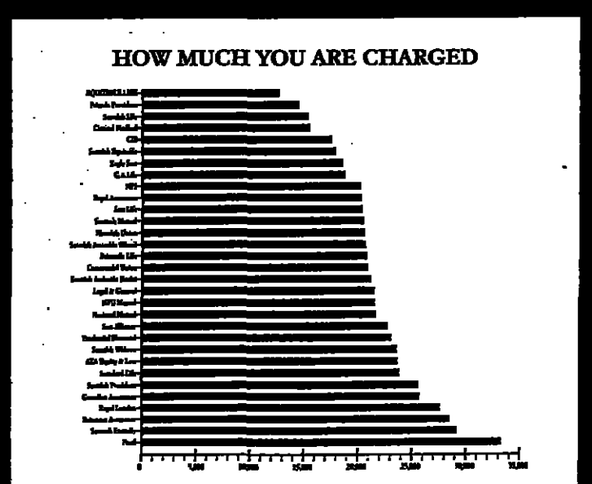
Postcode

Henderson Investors

Please remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The value of an investment and the income from it can fall as well as rise as a result of market and currency fluctuations and you may not get back the amount originally invested. Henderson Investors is the name under which Henderson Investors Limited and Henderson Investors (Unit Trusts) Limited, both regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority, and Henderson Administration Limited, regulated by IMRO, provide investment products and services. Registered in England No. 1749126.

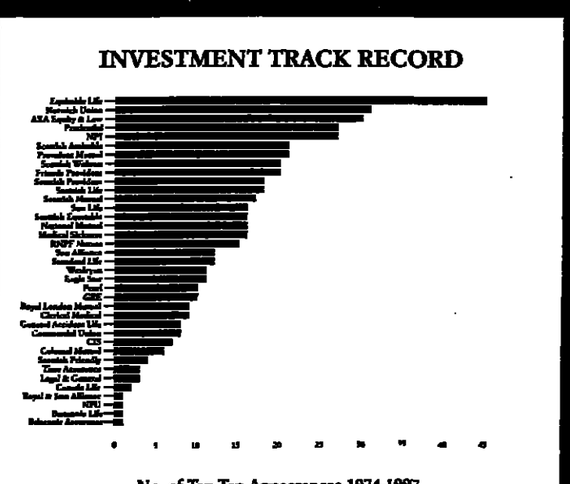
IF YOU'RE GOING TO BUY A PENSION, MAKE SURE IT'S ONE OF THE BEST ON THE MARKET.

HOW MUCH YOU ARE CHARGED



The effect of charges (£)

INVESTMENT TRACK RECORD



No. of Top Ten Appearances 1974-1997

Source: Planned Savings surveys of regular contribution with-profits personal pension plans, 1974-1997

Choosing a personal pension plan is not an easy task. Superficially, many plans can look similar, so what factors should you consider when making your choice?

Price, performance and flexibility are perhaps the key indicators that will enable you to differentiate the wheat from the chaff.

PRICE

All companies are now required to disclose to potential buyers the cost of investments such as personal pension plans. Comparing the charges made by different companies can be quite revealing.

The chart above left compares the effect of the charges made by various companies to recoup such costs as commission, remuneration and administration for a £200 pm, 20 year regular contribution with-profits personal pension plan. Source: Money Management, October 1996.

Not only are the effects of The Equitable's charges the lowest of the companies surveyed, but also the effects of our charges are almost half the average.

PERFORMANCE

For more than 20 years the industry journal, Planned Savings, has monitored the investment performance of regular contribution with-profits personal pension plans maturing over different time periods.

Of the 56 performance tables published since surveys began in 1974, The Equitable has appeared in the top ten on no less than 45 occasions.

That consistency of performance covering two decades is unmatched by any other company.

The Society's Pension Business Fund no longer receives tax credits on the dividends from UK equities. This may affect the future returns achieved by pension funds, although it is not possible to predict what the future impact will be.

Past performance is no guarantee of future performance.

FLEXIBILITY

With an Equitable Personal Pension Plan you may vary your contributions without penalty. If you have to stop paying contributions your existing benefits are unaffected. So we don't tie you to specific contributions and provided the minimum contribution is made you may invest what you want when you want. Additionally, if you retire earlier or later than planned, there's no penalty. Your benefits will be the same as if you had chosen that date at the outset.

So, if you would like to learn more about The Equitable Personal Pension Plan by post and by telephone, return the coupon or call (0990) 38 48 58.

www.equitable.co.uk

FOR YOUR SECURITY YOUR TELEPHONE CALL MAY BE RECORDED
INFORMATION/ADVICE WILL ONLY BE GIVEN ON EQUITABLE GROUP PRODUCTS
REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY
THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7BR.

I would welcome details on The Equitable's pension plans.

I am self employed ☐

I am an employee not in a company pension scheme ☐

TMCM8A

NAME (Mr/Mrs/Miss)

ADDRESS

Postcode

Tel: (Office) Tel: (Home)

We guarantee that no company outside The Equitable and its subsidiaries will receive these details. If, however, you would prefer to receive no further information from us, please tick this box ☐

The Equitable Life

You profit from our principles

"We moved to Brighton to be closer to our grandson and to Exeter for our Private Medical Insurance."



There's never been a better time to move to Exeter Friendly Society for your private medical insurance. Because, unlike virtually any other insurer, Exeter never increase your subscriptions simply because you get older. So the age you join at is the age you stay at.

Knowing we don't apply age-related subscription increases, offers you a healthy solution. It's our way of expressing the value we place on our Members' loyalty.

We're able to keep costs down because as a friendly society we have no shareholders to pay, so all surpluses are re-invested to improve benefits for our Members.

For full details of our 50+ plan - one of the healthiest on the market - simply complete the coupon.

You couldn't make a better move.

**For the sake of your health and wealth, move to Exeter.**

* Subscriptions will increase to reflect rising costs of treatment and developments in medical expertise and technology.

THE IMPACT OF AGE RELATED INCREASES WHEN YOU JOIN AT AGE 50.

| JOINING AGE | EXETER PREFERRED PLAN | SIMILAR PLAN FROM ANOTHER INSURER | ANNUAL SAVING |
|---|---|---|---|
| 50 | £47.02 | £51.89 | £58.44 |
| RENEWAL AGE | | | |
| 55 | £57.22 | £66.35 | £109.56 |
| 60 | £69.64 | £88.53 | £226.68 |
| 65 | £84.73 | £127.71 | £515.76 |
| 70 | £103.11 | £179.72 | £919.32 |
| 75 | £125.50 | £248.14 | £1471.68 |

Figures for joining age 50 are current monthly individual rates. Other ages are based on current rates and assume a 4% subscription increase every year for both plans.

If you are under 80 years of age please telephone **0845 60 30 615** (local call rate) or complete this coupon for details.

Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Tel: _____ Ages of people to be included _____

Current insurer _____ Renewal date _____

50 PLAN EXETER FRIENDLY SOCIETY

BEECH HILL HOUSE, WALNUT GARDENS, EXETER, DEVON EX4 4DG

TI 01/98

**Jill Insley** finds a fund manager preparing to launch a range of Peps

# M&G plans to get back on the track



With only 15 months to go before personal equity plans are replaced by individual savings accounts (Isa), it may seem optimistic for a fund management group to launch a new range of Peps. For M&G, a fund management group that has produced poor performance on several of its funds over the past few years, the move verges on the foolhardy. M&G accepts that it may take time to repair its reputation.

However, Michael McLintock, its chief executive, this week said that the performance of the group's main UK equity funds has picked up significantly over the past six months. And by promoting its repackaged range of Peps it can take advantage of any investors who wish to buy now while stocks last.

Many investors have decided to wait until the Government publishes further details about Isas and how they will replace Peps before investing any more money. But M&G has already promised that investments in its new Fundamentals Pep range can be transferred seamlessly into an Isa without penalty.

The range currently consists of four existing funds: the Corporate Bond Pep fund, Blue Chip Pep fund, Managed Income Pep fund, and the High Interest fund (a cash fund). M&G also plans to launch a new FTSE All-share index tracker in February to complete the range.

The Fundamentals range has been designed to provide a simple route into equity and bond investment for first-time investors.

M&G says all the funds have top quartile performance over five years or since launch, and no initial charge. As the average initial charge is typically about 5 per cent of the amount being invested, this could amount to a saving of £300 on a £6,000 general Pep.

However, M&G will charge investors who withdraw their money from the Corporate Bond and Managed Income funds within five years. The withdrawal charges range from 4.5 per cent in the first year of investment to 1 per cent in the fifth. Withdrawals after the fifth year are not penalised.

**HIT OR MISS**

In comparison, Fidelity's MoneyBuilder range of Pep funds (similar in concept to Fundamentals) has no initial or withdrawal charges.

Chris Wicks, of Kidsons Impey Scott Lang, the Manchester firm of chartered accountants, finds the M&G annual charges complicated and confusing. Rather than publishing a single annual rate for each fund, M&G has separated out the annual charge, annual custodian charge and annual registrar's fee.

The Corporate Bond Pep also has an additional annual Pep charge of 0.25 per cent. On top of this, investors also have work out the effect of VAT. Tessa Murray, a spokeswoman for M&G, agrees that the charges are complicated, but says it was impossible to simplify them in the time-frame allowed to launch the range.

M&G has repackaged some of its better performing funds for the range. Mr Wicks is particularly keen on the Corporate Bond Pep. He says: "M&G's fixed-interest team, which runs this fund, is recognised as one of the best in the market."

The Blue Chip fund's performance nose-dived in the last three months of 1997, dropping from the top 25 per cent of the UK Growth & Income sector to the bottom 25 per cent (according to figures supplied by Reuters Funds).

Miss Murray attributes this drop to the fact that the fund invests in FTSE 100 companies' shares which have been particularly hit by the recent stock market turbulence. She says that comparing its performance to that of funds in the same sector with a lower proportion of FTSE 100 shares is not truly representative.

Graham Hooper, investment director with Chase de Vere, the independent financial adviser, has been highly critical of M&G's performance in the past. M&G specialises in recovery stocks, a cyclical area of investment that has done very badly during the past few years.

He says: "M&G have tried to revamp their funds. In comparative terms they probably will do better performance-wise, but I can't see an immense amount changing there. I admire Michael McLintock, but he's got the task of getting a supertanker to turn around."

Mr Hooper suggests that first-time investors use the MoneyBuilder range of Peps from Fidelity, which has enjoyed a period of good investment performance and also offers an international option MoneyBuilder Plus.

Alternatively they may prefer Virgin Direct's Index Tracker and Income funds, which have a better image than M&G at the moment.

However, Amanda Davidson, of Holden Meehan, the independent financial adviser, agrees that M&G's performance has been "a bit ropey", but thinks the fund management group has been successful in tackling this problem. She says: "We think Fundamentals is a very good idea. We like the mix of funds and it's reassuring for people to know that they can transfer their money into an Isa at no extra charge." However, many other fund management groups have grasped this point, and investors can expect many identical offers in the coming months.

**SCORE: ★★★**

Products graded from ★ (poor), to ★★★★★ (outstanding).



WITH-PROFITS BOND

A worry-free investment offering the best of both worlds.

**Security and Potential Capital Growth**

If that sounds like your dream come true, then The Equitable With-Profits Bond is a winning combination for your investments.

With £500 you can invest in a managed fund of assets, which smooths the short-term fluctuations in value over the period of your investment.

What is more, we guarantee that, whatever future market conditions are like, at the fifth and subsequent anniversaries you can encash your Bond for its original value plus bonuses accrued.

So, you can strike a balance between keeping your savings safe in a building society, but possibly eroded by inflation, and the potentially lucrative but more risky option of investment in equities.

And, as part of your medium to long-term investment plans, The Equitable With-Profits Bond can play an important and profitable part.

Of course, you also have the reassurance and peace of mind which comes from dealing with The Equitable Life, the world's oldest mutual life office.

If you would like more information on achieving the best of both worlds with The Equitable With-Profits Bond, call (0990) 38 48 58, or return the coupon below for details by post and by telephone.

www.equitable.co.uk

For your security your telephone call may be recorded.

Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products

Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority

THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR
I would welcome information on The Equitable With-Profits Bond ☐ TMBC8A

NAME (Mr Mrs Miss) _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

Tel: (Office) _____ Postcode _____

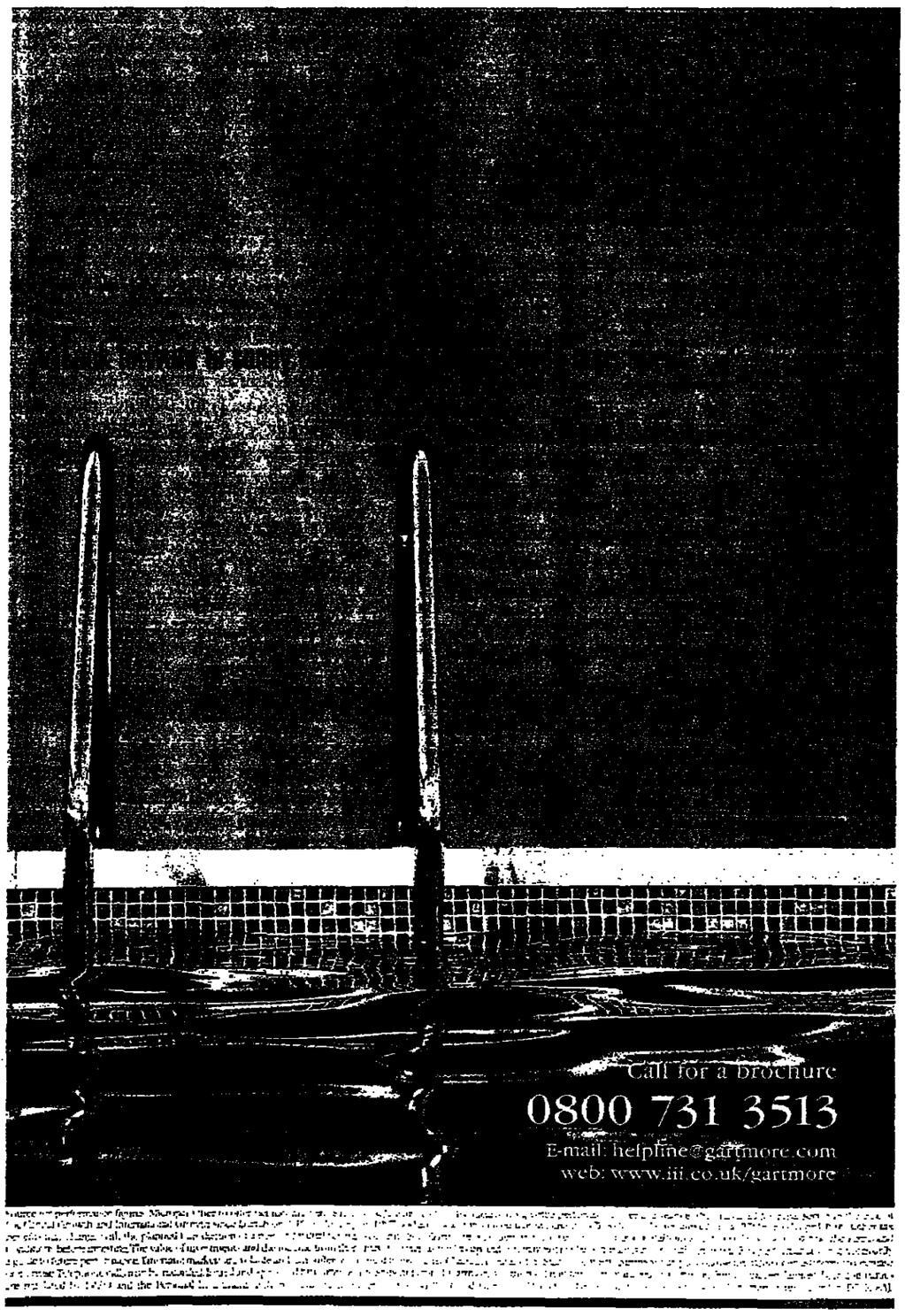
Tel: (Home) _____

Date of Birth _____

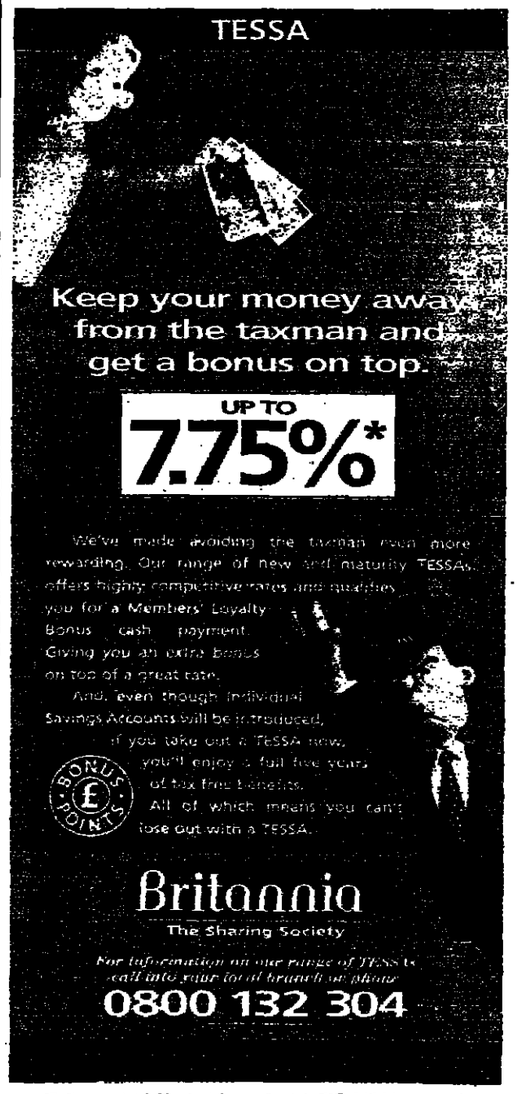
Founded 1762

**The Equitable Life**

You profit from our principles




TESSA




*Platinum TESSA (without UK income tax deducted). Initial investment is £3,000. No withdrawals allowed during the five year term. Interest is variable and is paid on each anniversary. Annual cash payment from the Members' Loyalty Bonus Scheme is subject to tax. Rates correct at time of going to press. Britannia Building Society Britannia House Leek Staffordshire ST13 5RG. Lines open 9am - 7pm weekdays, 9am - 12 noon Saturdays and 10am - 2pm Sundays.

...nsion...
...phon...

...Gartmore, telephone 0151-946 2000, Saturday, January 17, 1998 ...Off.co.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الإصل



# A trust for all weathers from DMG

**Fund manager tries to win back private investors by offering greater protection, says Gavin Lumsden**

TRUST WATCH

Sixteen months after scandal erupted over its European funds, Deutsche Morgan Grenfell is attempting to make a comeback among private investors with the launch of a new unit trust. Once the darling of the fund management industry, DMG's fortunes were reversed overnight by the discovery in 1996 that Peter Young, its European fund manager, had breached rules limiting the amount he could invest in illiquid, unquoted companies.

Mr Young's activities meant accurate valuation of the three European funds was impossible. Trading in the funds was suspended while Deutsche Bank pumped in £300 million as investors headed for the door. An investigation by the Serious Fraud Office and a hefty fine by City regulators ensured DMG's name became known for all the wrong reasons. Since then investors have continued to stay away as performance in the company's 17 unit trust Peps has dropped alarmingly.

Considering the ups and downs in reputation and the performance of its funds, it is appropriate that the new unit trust, the all-weather Equity Fund, is designed to protect investors against sharp falls in the stock market. Ever since the tenth anniversary of the infamous 1987 crash last October, stock markets have become increasingly volatile, largely in response to the growing economic crisis in the Far East.

With storm clouds gathering on the horizon, the all-weather Equity Fund is the latest of a growing band of "protected" funds which aim to give investors most of the upside in stock markets while limiting their exposure to the downside.

Basically protected funds offer investors an inbuilt insurance policy that most of their money will be safe from the ravages of the stock market. Many protected funds achieve this by not investing in stocks and shares at all. Most of the money held in these funds is put on deposit while a small amount, around 2 per cent, is used to buy financial options designed to give them exposure to stock market growth.

The all-weather fund takes a a different, more complex approach. Like similar funds run by John Govett, Edinburgh Fund Managers and Scottish Widows, the DMG fund is 98 per cent invested in shares in FTSE 100 companies. The remaining 2 per cent is used to support a complex strategy based on options. Although the intricacies of options trading are understood only by rocket scientists and mathematical whiz-kids, in essence they are straightforward. Buying an option simply confers the right to buy or sell a stock at a pre-determinated price at a given point in the future. Options which confer the right to buy are called "puts" and those for selling are called "calls".



By buying a combination of a two-year put and a series of shorter-term calls on the FTSE 100, DMG aims to limit any potential losses in any one year to 10 per cent. Moreover, if the market rises by 15 per cent, the fund will take a new option, so locking in that growth. However, neither of these are guaranteed. Investors are relying on DMG to not only get its stock-picking right but to operate its options strategy effectively.

Although the derivatives bought by Nick Leeson, the rogue trader, are different entirely, the fate of Barings is a reminder of how badly they can go wrong. It is all very well talking about downside protection but how much can you make? Fortunately, investors have a track record to look at. The all-weather fund is a clone of another fund run by DMG for pension schemes in the past three years; the Managed Risk Equity Fund has achieved a return of 13.1 per cent. This puts it near the bottom of its league table as most of its peers achieved analysed returns of 14.8 per cent. However the MRE fund has done this by more than halving the amount of volatility/risk in the fund.

You don't get protection for nothing; the options which reduce the risk are expensive and are responsible for the annual 1.7 per cent lag in performance.

Nevertheless, Frances Davies, managing director of Morgan Grenfell Investment Funds, says the product is worthwhile. "Since its launch, the Managed Risk Fund has achieved 55 per cent growth. That is a lot of growth for your money and a lot less volatility. We see the all-weather fund will be attractive to building society investors who have not risked going into equities before. With our active stocks selection, we will be seeking to outperform the FTSE 100, not just track it."

Not everyone agrees. Haydn Green managing director of PEP Direct, the broker, believes protected funds are misleading. He says: "Most of the falls in the market are under 10 per cent, so what is the point of setting this level of protection? You should only invest in stock markets for the long term. If you can't forget about your money for five years, don't bother."

Mr Green also believes that protected funds should be explained more fully. "What we have here is the most complicated arrangements being sold to the most simple people. I think the regulators should step in to ensure people understand the cost of their insurance policies."

Ian Millward, of Chase De Vere, says investors will welcome funds which reduce volatility. He also likes the fact that the fund responds to market movements and does not automatically reset every quarter, as with some protected funds. "This avoids the expense of automatically buying options," he says.

Minimum investment in the fund is £1,000, although regular savers can start with £25 a month. It is just as well that DMG aims to beat the FTSE 100 because charges are on the high side — 5.25 per cent initial and 1.5 per cent annual, however PEP investors get a discount reducing the initial fee to 3 per cent. The fund is to launch on February 9.

BLUE DOLPHIN FILMS



Film companies will benefit in the 21st century thanks to new distribution channels. Investors can benefit too

# Warming to the megatrend theme in 21st century

TRUST WATCH

What will be the "megatrends" of the 21st century? Investment house GT Global believes it will be healthcare, media and financial services and is launching a trust next week to invest in what it believes will be the boom industries of the future.

The UK Key Trends unit trust will invest in the UK-listed companies able to take advantage of the trends as they unfold. It believes the key drivers of change will be:

- ☐ The breakdown of world trade barriers;
- ☐ Changing demographics, in particular the ageing population;
- ☐ The gradual withdrawal of state welfare;
- ☐ The spread of technology in all areas of life;
- ☐ The increasing importance of emerging markets.

GT fund manager Nick Train says that financial services companies will boom as people take responsibility for their financial future, and as the industry consolidates on a global scale. In healthcare, more elderly people will demand more sophisticated drugs and treatments, while in the media industry distribution channels, such as cable, satellite, digital and Internet, will see a massive expansion of television, film and music companies.

GT says these trends mean that investment managers will have to take a thematic approach to picking shares. Mike Webb, managing director, said: "The thematic approach enables investors to participate in the success of companies which exploit dynamic growth trends in the world. The UK Key Trends fund has been designed to enable people to continue to invest at home, but taking advantage of the worldwide trends that are shaping the future." The fund is Pepable via under the Thematic Growth package, which is 75 per cent invested in the UK fund and 25 per cent invested in GT's recently launched Global Dynamic Theme fund.

Investment advisers have welcomed the new launch, with one caveat. Graham Hooper, Chase de Vere investment director, said: "I like the concept, but GT is currently up for grabs and everybody is asking who will be owning them in a year's time."

GT's parent group is believed to be in talks with a number of investment groups about selling GT Global. Simon Davies, Berry Asset Management investment adviser, said: "GT are proven growth managers, but there is a question mark over the management team. Will they still be in place next year?"

GT's performance record is regarded highly. Mr Davies said: "GT have been a big fan of theme investing for some time, and a focus on financial services and tecnology has served them well. They are able to buy growth stocks which on a value basis would be rejected by other investment managers."

But Mr Hooper said that investors should be clear that thematic investment is a long-term option. "Things are not going to change overnight. GT launched a German fund when the Berlin Wall came down, and they called it a warrant on history. The German market has performed well over the last year but at first things didn't go as well as they hoped." Roddy Kohn, of Kohn Cougar, added: "GT has a good pedigree and thematic investing adds another dimension. But it's not for the faint-hearted." But is thematic investing just a new gimmick, or the latest investment fashion? James Higgins, director of Chamberlain de Broë, is less impressed. He said: "Being cynical, I would say this is a great marketing concept. The days of launching plain vanilla funds are over and this is a fashionable new label.

"But what are they really doing that is different to other investment managers? You can find lots of managers who are focused on financial services and pharmaceuticals but just don't package it this way. I would prefer to recommend a generalist investment trust such as F&C Enterprise or Personal Assets Trust which have stunning performance and are much cheaper to buy."

But Christopher Young, GT marketing manager, insists that its not just a new wrapper on old stocks. "There is a big difference between sector allocation and thematic investing. When you look at the megatrends of the future you don't have to pay attention to the index, or be driven by "weightings" that other managers have to live by."

PATRICK COLLINSON

In the July Budget, the Chancellor announced that tax exempt savings schemes will change in April 1999. As a result you may not be able to continue to enjoy the current tax benefits offered by a PEP. However, the Government has announced that a new tax privileged vehicle is to be introduced – the Individual Savings Account, or ISA for short. Full details have yet to be confirmed and we are currently in discussion with the Government as to the future implications for PEPs. The price of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up, you may not get back as much as you invest. The value to you of the benefits will depend on your own circumstances. M&G do not offer investment advice or make any recommendations regarding investments - we only promote the packaged products and services of the M&G marketing group.
*The dealing spread of units in the M&G Blue Chip Fund was 0.5% as at 2 January 1998.
Issued by M&G Financial Services Limited (Regulated by The Personal Investment Authority). Registered Office: M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. M&G Unit Trusts are managed by M&G Securities Limited (Regulated by IMRO and The Personal Investment Authority).

Why does money grow in our Blue Chip PEP? Look at the Fundamentals.

Fundamentals

● Every time you fill your trolley at the supermarket, you're probably supporting a fair few of Britain's blue chip companies





Blue chip companies are the biggest in the land, and make an ideal investment for the heart of your portfolio. M&G's Blue Chip PEP Fund – part of our Fundamentals range – will help you take advantage of their strength.

INVEST IN BRITAIN'S BRIGHTEST

With our Blue Chip PEP Fund, you could currently be tapping into the success of such famous names as Shell, Glaxo Wellcome and BT. Those who have already invested are reaping handsome rewards.

LONG TERM GOALS

Whether you're saving for school fees, or need extra savings to dip into in retirement, the merits of a stake in 'Great Britain PLC' are plain to see. Why look any further for a long term total return? There's Fundamentally only one choice – The M&G Blue Chip PEP Fund.

THE M&G ISABILITY PROMISE

The Government plans to replace PEPs with Individual Savings Accounts in 1999. We promise to make no penalty charge when you transfer your M&G PEP holding to our ISA. Ask for details of this exciting opportunity today.

NO INITIAL CHARGE*
NO WITHDRAWAL FEE

0345 321 015

Lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
Internet: M&G Home page http://www.iii.co.uk/m_g
E-mail: hb@mandg.reply.co.uk
For your protection all telephone calls may be recorded.

M&G

Pensions by phone



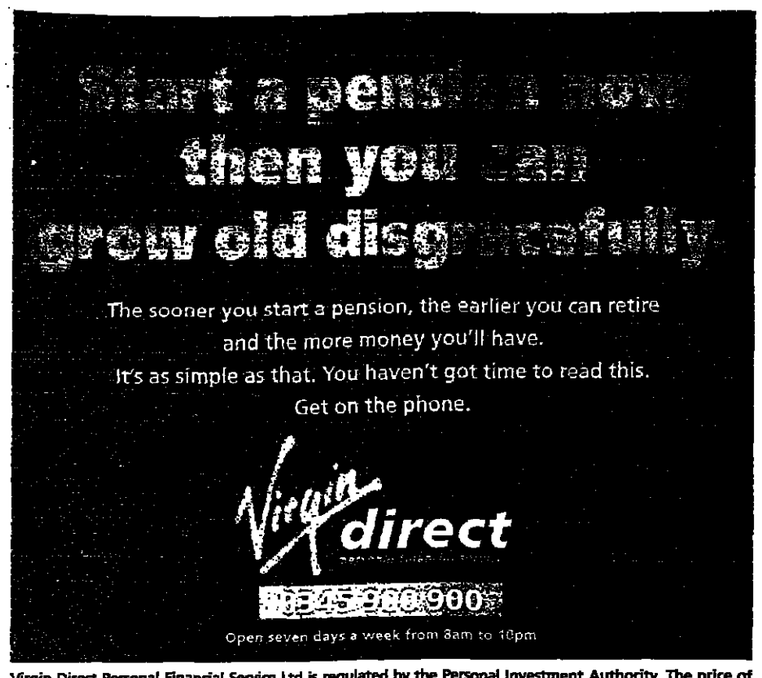
8.00 am to 10.00 pm.... 7 days a week....

Now you can pick up the phone and get pensions information or advice and even set up a plan, quickly and without fuss.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS
Looking good for your pension.

Please telephone quoting ref: 288B912 0345 6789 10 or talk to your Independent Financial Adviser.

For your protection, your calls to Scottish Widows may be recorded or monitored and information or advice will only be provided on Scottish Widows products. Issued by Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.




Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. The price of units and any income from them can go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount you invest. The basis of tax may change and the value of the tax benefit depends upon your own personal circumstances. For your security all calls to Virgin Direct are recorded and randomly monitored.


# Telephone battle lines drawn

*Competition hots up as branchless banks fight the old order and each other, says*

**Susan Emmett**



No matter where you are, your bank is just a telephone call away with the boom in branchless banking

Telephone banking is booming. Branchless banks have not only become a threat to traditional high street banks and building societies but to each other.

Virgin Direct's new Virgin One account, which opened to the public yesterday, already attracted about 10 per cent of their new customers from rival telephone bank First Direct.

Six million people do all their banking by telephone, and Datamonitor, the management consultant, forecasts that by 2001, 15 million customers will bank by phone. The number of telephone banking accounts has nearly doubled since 1996 and experts predict that Britain will see Europe's highest growth in this sector.

Competition among branchless banks has also spilt over into the savings market with the launch of Halifax's and Safeway's new direct savings accounts both offering high rates over 7 per cent.

The move follows the birth of Standard Life Bank earlier this month which shook up the savings market by attracting a significant number of savers from the Halifax as well as Sainsbury and Tesco. Standard Bank has received £85 million in deposits in about 13,000 accounts since its launch on January 5. Most customers came from more traditional institutions, but those who defected from the supermarkets were lured by the higher rates paid to bigger savers.

Both Sainsbury and Tesco pay an interest rate of 6.5 per cent on balances over £1. But Standard Bank's rates are tiered and range from 6.76 per cent on opening balances to 7.3 per cent for sums over £50,000.

Jim Spowart, managing director of Standard Bank, believes that savers are becoming increasingly sophisticated and inclined to shop around.

"To their credit Tesco and Sainsbury's Bank brought about more awareness that better rates are available. Savers used to be a bit lethargic," he said. "It's wise to scout around. Loyalty only goes as far as the price people are prepared to accept. People are realising that they are getting a poorer deal from the high street and are ready to move. The launch of Standard Bank was quite a phenomenal success."

Improvements in technology and cost savings for banks have increased the scope for telephone banking. But Paul Swainbank, managing director for Lloyds TSB telephone banking, which currently serves more than a million account holders, believes that customers were responsible for the telephone banking revolution.

"The reason it is growing so fast is that customers are learning how to use it faster than we can invent it," he said. "People often ring up asking to do transactions we had not thought of before. We are studying customer behaviour to make sure we can keep ahead of customers." Mr Swainbank pointed out that in 1992 it took just over four minutes to pay a bill over the phone. Today ten bill payments can be made in under a minute.

First Direct, owned by Midland Bank, pioneered the new type of service in 1989 and holds a 47 per cent share of the telephone banking market. More significantly it has also grabbed 3 per cent of the whole banking sector in under ten years.

The 365-day-a-year service means customers can access accounts even on Christmas Day to check balances, transfer money and pay bills. Other standard services include ordering statements, replacement cards and chequebooks, setting up or amending standing orders, and stopping cheques. First Direct also sells its own mortgages, insurance and savings products over the phone.

As telephone banking becomes the norm, most traditional banks and building societies have rolled out their own versions. Forty per cent of all bank customers use the phone for all or some of their banking transactions. But not all traditional banks provide the full 24-hour operator service offered by First Direct.

TSB Phonebank and Bank of Scotland's Banking Direct service are some of the exceptions. Launched in 1994, Phonebank has more than 660,000 registered customers and continues to grow at the rate of 10,000 customers every month. The two call centres based in Newport and Glasgow handle 20,000 calls a day.

Standard services include balance inquiries, money transfers, bill payments, setting up standing orders, direct debit cancellations and credit card inquiries. TSB has also recently launched Express, an additional automated service for those looking for a speedy way to check their bank balances.

Most telephone banks charge for calls at local rates. But calls to Bank of Scotland's Banking Direct, Citibank Direct and Sainsbury's Bank are free.

## Virgin claims Direct 10% hit

First Direct, is being challenged by newcomer Virgin One, which claims about 10 per cent of their new customers have defected from the best known telephone bank. The battle is on for young, articulate, high-earning customers.

Virgin's new account, first announced in November, opened to non-existing customers yesterday. First Direct was the first bank to offer 24-hour banking in 1989, pioneering a new type of service to challenge traditional high street banking. But as the concept of telephone banking becomes increasingly familiar, branchless banks are now competing against each other.

First Direct said: "It was inevitable we would see competition but it hasn't yet had any effect on our customer acquisition. Telephone banking is becoming the norm."

Most high street banks and building societies including Barclays and Lloyds now offer some sort of telephone banking facility. And 40 per cent of all bank customers use the phone for all or some banking transactions. But few traditional institutions offer all banking services 24 hours a day.

In just under 10 years, First Direct has gained 3 per cent of the total banking market and 47 per cent of telephone banking.

Virgin One, breaks down the distinction between saving and borrowing by combining a mortgage and current account with a single interest rate for the whole service starting at 8.2 per cent.

Despite the lack of advertising, about 10,000 new customers have shown an interest in the new Virgin One account since it was first announced.

SUSAN EMMETT


BIGGER CASH PAYMENTS FOR ENDOWMENTS! CALL FREE 0800 783 0862.

The UK's biggest buyer pays top prices for policies.
Your policy must be at least 8 years old and satisfy our selection criteria.

SEC

FAX: 0181 207 4950

SECURITISED ENDOWMENT CONTRACTS PLC
SEC House, 49 Theobald St., Borehamwood, Herts WD6 4RZ.

Cashing in your Endowment Policy?

More than money.

Market leading prices and service with a free 48 hour quote.
London/South: 01621 852133 Midlands: 0121 709 2500
South West: 0117 930 8827 North: 0113 239 1941 Scotland: 0141 353 0311
Call today, lines always open. Please quote TI0DS
Beale Dobie & Company Limited, Fellbridge Mill, Maldon, Essex CM9 5FN
AP Regulated by the Personal MM Investment Authority

Beale Dobie

ONE AIM

TWO NAMES

— Aberdeen Prolific brings together the expertise of two highly regarded investment companies — 28 unit trusts ranging from specialist sectors such as Technology through to mainstream UK funds — A choice of 25 PEPs — A top performing Corporate Bond PEP yielding over 8%* tax free — Over £11bn under management — And a belief in active management with consistently impressive results

— To find out more, call now on 0800 35 37 37

Aberdeen Prolific

Please send me details of: Aberdeen Prolific's full range of unit trusts and unit trust PEPs ☐ Aberdeen Prolific Corporate Bond PEP ☐ Please return this coupon to Aberdeen Prolific Unit Trust Managers Limited, Freepost, 10 Queen's Terrace, Aberdeen AB10 1WY.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) Initials Surname

Address Post Code

REFERENCE NUMBER C 1 7 A PLEASE QUOTE WHEN PHONING

*Aberdeen Prolific Fixed Interest 8.12% running yield and 8.30% gross redemption yield as at 4/11/97 This is an annual figure and income may fluctuate. Source: Reuters Hindsight, offer to bid, with gross income reinvested, Aberdeen Prolific Fixed Interest is the underlying unit trust and is top in the UK Fixed Interest Sector over 2,3,5 and 10 years. Please remember that past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. The value of units and the income from them may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount originally invested. The Chancellor has announced that a new tax privileged investment, the Individual Savings Account, will be available from 1999. Although details have yet to be finalised, he has said that you will be able to switch your accumulated PEP investment(s), up to the maximum permitted, into it. The tax free status will remain unchanged until then. Issued by Aberdeen Prolific Unit Trust Managers, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority and a member of Autif

A NEW ANGLE ON INVESTMENT 0800 35 37 37

If all the world's top companies were British, you wouldn't need our Global Tracking PEP.

Not all the best companies are British, which is why not all of the Norwich Global Tracking PEP is invested in British companies. Unlike most other tracking PEPs, we invest in over 2,500 companies worldwide, to give excellent potential for growth.

- Growth since launch in July 1996 of 22.7%* TAX-FREE†, with a historic return of 100.2%** over 5 years.
- 75% of your investment tracks UK companies and 25% tracks companies in 27 other stock markets worldwide.
- No initial charges and no charge for transfer from other PEPs.
- Access to your money whenever you want it.

For a free information pack call

0800 0562450

quoting reference number 1T155.
Lines open weekdays 8am-9pm, weekends 10am-4pm.

NORWICH UNION Direct

No one protects more.

INSURANCE INVESTMENTS HEALTHCARE PENSIONS

I would like more information on the Norwich Global Tracking PEP.

Please complete this coupon in BLOCK CAPITALS and return it to Norwich Union Portfolio Services Limited, FREEPOST ANG 4243, Norwich NR1 3BR.

Title Initial Surname
Address
Postcode
Telephone Number (Day) (Evening)
REF: 1T155

†Please note that it might not be possible to continue investment in a PEP after April 1999 when the Government plan to introduce a new Individual Savings Account. Past performance is no guide to the future; unit prices can go down as well as up; the performance of PEPs invested in equity based assets will reduce from 1999 due to the loss of a reclaimable tax credit. You should consider PEPs a medium to long term investment. Funds invested abroad may alter with exchange rate fluctuations. Information/advice will only relate to Norwich Union products. We may telephone you to confirm receipt of your information pack. *Buy to sell performance of the Norwich Global Tracking PEP, gross income reinvested 1/7/96 to 30/11/97. **Although the Norwich Global Tracking PEP has only been available for 1 year, if you had invested £1,000 on 1/10/92 in the underlying funds of the Norwich Global Tracking PEP (in the same proportions as the PEP) your investment would have been worth £2,002 (a growth of 100.2%) on 30/11/97, assuming the income tax benefits of a PEP also applied. Data that you provide may be used by Norwich Union group companies, your financial adviser or other relevant organisations for marketing purposes such as market research and contacting you regarding your insurance and investment needs. For your protection all telephone calls will be recorded. The Personal Investment Authority and IMRO regulate Norwich Union Portfolio Services Limited.


9HN, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday. January 17. 1998 Registered at the Newspaper Office.

هكذا من الأصل



**Marianne Curphey** reports on difficult decisions as annuity rates keep sliding

# Juggling act for those who are about to retire

MARILYN KINGWILL



Those people who have personal pensions and who are on the brink of retiring are facing a bewildering dilemma of whether or not to buy an annuity at a time when rates are at their lowest for more than 20 years.

Annuities are closely linked to gilts, the Government-backed, fixed-interest savings vehicle. Because of a number of complex economic factors the income generated from a gilt (known as the yield) has been dropping steadily over the past year and fell sharply again last week.

This has left investors and annuity brokers with a difficult decision. Should they hang on for a better rate, or should they buy now before another fall? The dilemma is all the more acute because once bought, the annuity will provide income at a fixed rate for life. Make the wrong decision and you will rue it until you die.

## THE RULES

Investors with a personal pension must buy an annuity with the fund that they have built up in their plan to provide them with a regular income until they die. They do not have to buy it immediately upon retirement, and can delay or use sections of their fund to provide income.

In the past few years, many people have opted to delay in the hope that rates will pick up again. However, depressing news about rates during the past few weeks appears to have dashed people's hopes of a quick recovery.

An annuity is a contract with an insurance company which pays you a regular income until you die in return for the pot of money from your pension fund that you have handed over.

The older you are when you buy your annuity, the higher the level of income paid by the annuity because the insurance company is betting that you will die before your fund is exhausted.

## THE OPTIONS

You can shop around for an annuity provider — you do not need to buy an annuity from the same insurance company that has managed your pension fund. With a personal pension you are allowed to take 25 per cent tax-free cash out of the accumulated fund, although there are different rules for people holding self-employed personal pensions taken out before July 1988.

You can also opt for income drawdown, which lets you take cash from your plan every year, and allows you to delay buying an annuity up to the age of 75.

Phased retirement allows you to buy a number of smaller annuities at different times. This is useful to those people who want to retire from work gradually.

People are living longer, which means that they cost insurance companies more money. Interest rates are expected to decline in order to fall in line with those on the Continent as European economic and monetary union draws closer.

Changes to the way large companies are taxed means that gilt investments are becoming more attractive to institutional investors.

Meanwhile, turbulence in stock markets across the world has prompted fund managers, pension houses and individual investors to switch some of their portfolios from equity investments into cash and fixed-interest products, which are less volatile.

## WHY RATES FELL

Gilt-edged stocks are fixed-interest investments, the price of which goes up and down with demand. As more fund managers buy gilts, their price rises and the interest they pay falls as a proportion of their face value.

So as the prices of gilts rise, their yield falls. Annuity rates are tied very closely to the yields from gilts. Stockbrokers who specialise in selling annuities find it difficult to be optimistic about rates in the short term.

Peter Quinton, managing director of the Annuity Bureau, said: "These are the lowest annuity rates that I have ever seen. A year ago the rate was 7.73 per cent, but people delayed buying because they hoped rates might increase.

"At the beginning of this month the rate was 6.41 per cent, but dropped on January 5 to 6.26 per cent and has fallen every day since then to close at 6.08 per cent."

William Burrows, managing director of William Burrows Annuities, said that he believed rates could fall further. "They have been falling since 1990, but the news right now is particularly depressing because the gilt yields are close to falling through the psychological barrier of 6 per cent. Insurance companies are now offering the lowest rates since the 1960s."

## WHAT NOW?

If you are about to retire, Mr Quinton believes that there may be some good news for the economy in the medium term, which would lift annuity rates. He believes that delaying might be a wise option for some.

Mr Burrows forecasts that in the short and medium term rates will continue to fall and that people who are thinking of delaying the purchase of an annuity should look carefully to see whether they will be able to make up the income they will have lost through waiting for rates to rise.

Mr Burrows gives warning that by sitting still, they may become victims of a falling market.

"If they are delaying the purchase they should think about switching their pension pot into cash and gilts fund, rather than a managed fund which has the majority of its holdings in equities," he said.

"In the past, people could be passive and delay buying an annuity and still be better off as their pension fund would be growing by more than the annuity rate. Now that equities are looking more volatile and the Far East continues to be troubled, people may want to move out of share-based investments and towards something more stable.

"It is better to lock in the value now. There is no point in watching the gains you have made over 25 years wiped out if and when the market falls by 20 per cent."

In the July Budget, the Chancellor announced that tax exempt savings schemes will change in April 1999. As a result you may not be able to continue to enjoy the current tax benefits offered by a PEP. However, the Government has announced that a new tax privileged vehicle is to be introduced – the Individual Savings Account, or ISA for short. Full details have yet to be confirmed and we are currently in discussions with the Government as to the future implications for PEPs. The price of investments and the income from them can go down as well as up, you may not get back as much as you invest. The value to you of the benefits will depend on your own circumstances. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. M&G do not offer investment advice or make any recommendations regarding investments – we only promote the packaged products and services of the M&G marketing group. You should contact your independent financial adviser (if you have one) before investing. †Source: Micropal UK fixed interest sector *The difference between the buying and selling prices of units in the M&G Blue Chip Fund was 0.5% as at 2 January 1998. 0.59% for The M&G Managed Income Fund and 0.45% for The M&G Corporate Bond Fund as at 24th December 1997.
Issued by M&G Financial Services Limited (Regulated by The Personal Investment Authority). Registered Office: M&G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. M&G Unit Trusts are managed by M&G Securities Limited (Regulated by IMRO and The Personal Investment Authority).

Your 1997/98 PEP. Trust M&G with the Fundamentals.

Fundamentals

● Over 400,000 people deal direct with M&G – making us one of the most popular investment managers.

To help you solve your basic investment needs, M&G has created the Fundamentals range of PEPs.

FOR HIGH INCOME
Discover *The M&G Corporate Bond PEP Fund.** This award-winner is currently top of its sector (since launch in April 1994)†

FOR A RISING INCOME
Ask about *The M&G Managed Income PEP Fund.** This popular choice holds a range of M&G's income funds.

FOR GROWING LONG TERM RETURNS
You need *The M&G Blue Chip PEP Fund.** An excellent way to tap into the current strength of the UK economy.
*Coming soon – the launch of The M&G Index Tracker Fund (subject to FSA authorisation).*

THE M&G ISABILITY PROMISE
The Government plans to replace PEPs with Individual Savings Accounts in 1999. We promise to make *no penalty charge* when you transfer your M&G PEP holding to our ISA.
***Ask for details of this essential range today.***

NO INITIAL CHARGES*
NO WITHDRAWAL FEE AFTER 5 YEARS

0345 321 037

M&G

For a better income PEP, look beneath the surface

Rising Income

Substantial Capital Growth

THE MERCURY INCOME PEP

2% PEP DISCOUNT

If you're looking for outstanding performance, look no further than the Mercury Income Fund – from the winner of the 1997 Investment Week Fund Management Group of the year.

You'll find that Mercury Income Fund's excellent record of high and rising income is extremely hard to match. But look beneath the surface and you'll also discover a record of exceptional capital growth producing an average annual total return of 17%*.

**Save up to £120 with the Mercury PEP**

For more information on the Mercury Income Fund and a special 2% PEP discount worth up to £120, call us now, return the coupon or contact your financial adviser.

☎ 0800 882 884

To: Brochure Requests, Mercury Investment Services Ltd, FREEPOST KE4930, London EC4B 4DQ. Please send me details of the Mercury Income Fund. PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING USING BLOCK CAPITALS.

Title Surname

Forenames in full

Address

Postcode

Ref: TMIS03/98

MERCURY ASSET MANAGEMENT

*Source: Standard and Poor's Micropal. Average annualised total return since launch (16.3.84-1.1.98), based on buying to selling prices with gross income reinvested (illustrative only as PEPs were not introduced until 1987). 5-year equivalent 16%. ■ The value of investments may fluctuate and is not guaranteed. ■ Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. ■ 2% discount on the buying price of units for lump sum investments in the Mercury 1997/8 PEP. ■ The tax treatment of PEPs will be changed in April 1999. ■ The Mercury Income Fund is managed by Mercury Fund Managers Ltd (regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority) the unit trust management arm of Mercury Asset Management plc. ■ The Mercury PEPs are managed by Mercury Asset Management plc (regulated by IMRO). ■ Issued by Mercury Investment Services Ltd, 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS, which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and represents only the Mercury Marketing Group and its packaged products which include unit trusts, PEPs and pensions. ■ For your protection, telephone calls are usually recorded.

Our philosophy on pensions: We take less. You make

Call for pensions with really low charges

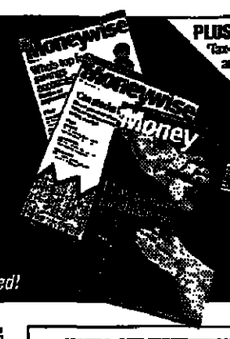
0800 77 66 66

EAGLE STAR

Eagle Star Life Assurance Company Limited is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. We only give advice on our own products. For your protection your call may be recorded. Full written details are available on request.

# 3 FREE issues of Moneywise

*The only personal finance magazine you'll ever need!*



PLUS FREE 'Tax-Free Saving Guide' and 'Pension Planner' when you apply within 7 days.

Now you can enjoy the UK's best-selling personal finance magazine *FREE for 3 months*. Take advantage of expert advice on how to spend, save, invest and plan for the future. Subscribe today by completing and returning the Direct Debit form below. We won't charge your account until you've received your 3 free issues. By then we believe you'll find it indispensable.

**Save £8.40 on our annual cover price**

What's more, MONEYWISE will start saving you money straight away – not only are your first 3 issues *absolutely FREE* but your subscription will be just £6 a quarter, a saving of £8.40 on the published annual price of £32.40 Why hesitate? Subscribe at once for a richer future.

**YOU'LL GET INDEPENDENT AND JARGON-FREE ADVICE EVERY MONTH**

- Expert advice from experts in banking, investment and pensions
- Best buys – that will truly enrich your spending
- *Increased earning power* – reliable tips from blue chip companies to alternative investments
- Frank information on your rights as a taxpayer, investor, mortgage and consumer
- Increased returns on your investments
- Monthly features and in-depth investigations
- Information on share movements and house prices

Customer Information: Please keep for reference. You are offered three free monthly issues of Moneywise magazine. Following your first three issues, if you do not write to us and your bank to cancel the instruction, your subscription to Moneywise will begin at £24 – a saving of £8.40 off our published price of £32.40 – and the cost will be debited from your bank account at quarterly intervals. A subscription contains other reassurances that you will be notified of any price changes prior to renewal. You may cancel at any time and recover a refund for issues not supplied. Offer applies to the UK only. Orders are subject to acceptance by IID Publications. Personal data will be used only by IID Publications and its associated companies, details of which can be obtained from them. IID Publications, IID Publications observes the Code of Practice of the Direct Marketing Association, details of which can be obtained from this address: IID Publications, 11 Westferry Circus, London E14 4HE. Registered number 2304057 England. SM McKay, Managing Director, IP Reynolds, Fin Dirctr.

YES! Please send me the next 3 months issues of Moneywise – FREE!

OFFER CLOSES FEB 20

I understand that if I do not wish to continue after my three months' free trial, I can cancel this order at any time before payment is due on 12th April 1998 and not owe you anything. But if I decide to continue, I need do nothing – my subscription will bring me MONEYWISE each month at the current price of £6 a quarter, paid by Direct Debit.

**Instruction to your bank/building society.**
Please fill in the whole form and send it back FREE to:
Moneywise, FREEPOST 34, 11 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf, London E14 4HE

DIRECT Debit
Originator's Reference No. 625957

1. Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society
To the Manager Bank or Building Society
Address
Postcode

5. Your name and address
Initials Surname
Address
Postcode

2. Name(s) of Account Holder(s)

6. Reference number
12 001-4 4960

3. Branch Sort Code (from the top right hand corner of your cheque)

4. Bank/Building Society account number

7. Instruction to your Bank or Building Society
Please pay IID Publications Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee.
I understand that this instruction may remain with IID Publications and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society

Signature(s) Date

Banks/Building Societies may not accept instructions to pay Direct Debits from some types of account.


**John Givens** on how policies can cover companies' best assets — their expert staff

# Insurance holds the key



Key men at Chelsea: Matthew Harding, left, who died in a helicopter crash, with Ken Bates, the club's chairman

High-profile business leaders take out key man insurance to cover the financial loss to their company if they were to be killed. Matthew Harding, the late chairman of the Benfield Insurance group and vice-chairman of Chelsea Football Club was insured for £30 million at the time of his fatal helicopter crash.

*Your own business does not* have to be as big as Mr Harding's for it to be a crisis if you or another vital member of staff are unable to work because of death, illness or injury.

In fact, as a small business enterprise you are most vulnerable when it comes to losing a member of the workforce, especially if he or she is an expert, and difficult or expensive to replace. Taking out insurance policies to cover a member of staff against death or sickness will help to pay the bills if the worst happens.

Key man insurance is basically a hybrid of the three different types of insurance policies — life assurance, critical illness insurance and permanent health insurance — which protects against loss of income. The insurances cover your business against the costs incurred in three areas.

First is business interruption where contracts might be lost or projects delayed as a direct result of losing a key worker. Second is the potential financial implications for your business where, for example, bank loans or overdrafts are dependent on the key man and might be cancelled or recalled if anything stopped him from doing his job. Third is the expense of finding a replacement for the staff member which might cost a sizeable sum and take some time, during which your usual profits are being affected.

Special rules allow you as the employer to pay the premiums on a policy covering a key member of staff and if anything happens to the insured person the benefits from the policy are paid to your business rather to the individual.

You can then use the cash either to find a replacement if necessary or to compensate for any loss of profits as a result of the key worker being unable to fulfil their normal function.

Ideally you could take out key man insurance to cover all eventualities and although the cost might seem prohibitive, you should carefully consider the implications of losing the services of an integral member of staff, including yourself.

## GO IT ALONE

A key person is anyone whose early death or serious illness or injury could cause financial problems to your business and this could include a director of the company or a vital employee with important skills or knowledge which would be hard to replace.

Insurance underwriters have complicated formulas for working out the maximum amount for which you can ensure an employee, although they do demand that the relationship between the person paying the premiums and the person covered by the policy is one of employer/employee.

Additionally, if an employee holds more than a 5 per cent stake in your business it is unlikely that you would be able to take out key man insurance on him.

Although it is possible to buy packaged products which include cover for death, critical illness and permanent health insurance in the same policy, it can often be wiser to take out indiviudual policies which are specific to your company's needs.

Life assurance is relatively straightforward and involves you taking out a policy on the life of the staff member and if that person dies during the agreed term of the policy the sum assured will be paid to your business as a lump sum.

You could spend this cash in a number of ways to try to reduce the impact of losing the key worker, either by using it to replace lost profits, to recruit a replacement or to finance the hiring of a temporary worker while you look around for someone else.

Critical illness pays out a lump sum if an insured employee cannot continue to work because they are diagnosed as having an illness or condition specified in the policy.

This will normally include common medical conditions such as heart attack, stroke and cancer as well as such other illnesses as Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's.

Permanent health insurance — better known as income protection — pays a monthly sum to the business while the key worker is away from the company because of illness or injury.

This type of policy comes with a deferred period, which specifies how long the employee needs to be incapacitated before the benefits become payable. This can be anything from four weeks to two years, although the shorter the deferred period the more expensive the monthly premiums will be.

Premiums paid to insurance companies for key man cover are counted as a business expense and are therefore eligible for tax relief, although because of this any benefits paid out could be taxable through your end-of-year corporation tax bill.

There are different rules for partnerships taking out key man insurance, mainly because, by law, partnerships dissolve if one of the partners dies and the business is then redistributed between surviving partners and the estate of the deceased.

Because all insurance policies are priced depending on the individual's circumstances and take into account things such as age, health, occupation, medical and family history, costs will differ from one person to the next.

However, it might not be as expensive as you think and if key man insurance is on your agenda you should get advice from a reputable financial adviser who will find the best policies to suit your company's requirements.

Although most small businessmen see the sense of having this type of insurance cover, records show most still ignore it.

According to Simon Barwell, personal finance marketing manager with Swiss Life, the protection company, only about 5 per cent of businesses have key staff insured. He said: "People insure their buildings, cars and computers but very seldom their main business assets — their key employees.

"Small businesses and partnerships are particularly vulnerable to the loss of key people like shareholders and partners and they should at least be looking to have critical illness and permanent health insurance to help protect the interest of their business.


Bonus Postal Account. Rates of up to

# 7.80%

gross C.A.R.

Plus access when you need it.

Do you want a better return on your savings? Take a look at our instant access postal account rates and believe your eyes.

*The account includes a unique 2% gross C.A.R.* quarterly bonus (based on your minimum balance for the quarter).*

On top of that, if you need access to your money immediately, you can get at it by post, without delay.

To open an account call Abbey National Direct, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm or Saturday 9am to 1pm, *quoting reference A505P or call into your local branch* or fill in the coupon below.

**0800 174 635**

| | | £2,500 | £10,000 | £25,000 | £50,000 | £100,000 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abbey National | Bonus Postal* | 7.30% | 7.50% | 7.60% | 7.70% | 7.80% |
| Tesco | Instant Access | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% |
| Nationwide | Invest Direct | 6.80% | 6.95% | 7.10% | 7.20% | 7.35% |
| Sainsbury's Bank | Instant Access | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% | 6.50% |
| Direct Line | Instant Access | 5.80% | 7.00% | 7.05% | 7.15% | 7.25% |
| Woolwich | Postal 60 | 6.75% | 7.15% | 7.35% | 7.55% | 7.75% |

Source: Moneyfacts. Bonus Postal Account rates are quoted gross C.A.R. and include a unique 2% gross C.A.R. bonus. All other rates quoted gross p.a. All financial information is checked for accuracy on a weekly basis.

Saving and Investing

ABBEY NATIONAL®

*Because life's complicated enough.*

P38

You may be able to register with us to receive interest gross; otherwise it will be paid net of income tax at the prescribed rate. Rates may vary. The minimum investment is £2000. *A bonus is payable each quarter that the balance of the account does not fall below £2000. The Compounded Annual Rate (C.A.R.) is the equivalent annual gross rate that would be achieved if interest, which is paid quarterly, was credited to the account. This account is not available to residents of the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. To assist us in improving our service, we may record or monitor telephone calls. Abbey National and the Umbrella Couple symbol are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

Please complete and send to: **Abbey National Direct Postal Account Centre, Freepost BE 1890, PO Box 422, Belfast BT2 7BR.**

Name: Address:

Postcode: Phone number: (Daytime) (Evening)

Date of birth: Signature(s):

Please find attached my cheque for £ to invest in the Abbey National Bonus Postal Account or send me further information. ☐ P38/CSOSP

Please send a personal cheque drawn from an account in and showing your name, plus one confirmation of address per applicant e.g. utility bill, bank or credit card statement.



FRAMLINGTON FINANCIAL FUND

# *Among the Top 10% of All Unit Trusts in 1997*



Framlington Financial Fund has a record of consistent outperformance – placing it among the top 10% of all unit trusts not only in 1997, but in the 11 years since launch. Over the last five years, a £1,000 investment would have grown by 160% to £2,600.*

+30% in 1997

We believe that 1998 will be another excellent year for the Fund because the arguments for investment in the financial sector are as strong as ever.

If you want to know more about this top performing fund, and to read Richard Peirson's commentary on his fund, contact your Financial Adviser or ring

0345 023138



*Richard Peirson, manager of the Framlington Financial Fund*

*Please send me details of the Framlington Financial Fund and PEP. Return the coupon to: Framlington Unit Management Limited, Freepost, P.O. Box 2, Twyford, Reading, Berkshire RG10 8BR.*

NAME

ADDRESS

Postcode

*If you do not wish to receive details of Framlington products in future, please tick the box* ☐ T1171198F

* Source: Micropal, offer to bid, net income reinvested to 9 January 1998. Launch date 13 October 1986. Issued by Framlington Unit Management Limited, member of the Framlington Marketing Group. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO. Member of AUTIF. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. Charges to exchange rates will affect the value of the Fund's overseas investments. Investment in single sector funds offers the possibility of higher returns but may also involve a higher degree of risk. The Government has announced that from 1999 tax advantaged schemes, such as PEPs and TESSAs, will be replaced with a new Individual Savings Account (ISA). Details of the ISA are currently subject to consultation and the final form is not yet known.

framlington



...ail your
...ion fund
...o a very
...ke income.



...ures, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.


هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الإصل



# Don't be left on the verge

**Conal Gregory** looks at the costs of insuring against a breakdown

Snow always seems to catch British motorists out. Although weather conditions here are unlikely to ever reach the extremes currently seen in Ontario, Quebec and the northeastern seaboard of America, British drivers are stillaffected by it every year.

Time after time the motoring organisations such as the RAC and Green Flag produce the same litany of flat or faulty batteries and poorly maintained ignition and cooling systems as the main cause of car breakdowns. But whether your car fails through your lack of maintenance or through other factors, the result can be time consuming and costly if you do not belong to a breakdown service.

Joining one not only gives peace of mind but — if you should need help — it will cost far less than employing a garage to transport either you or your car home, which could involve a family from Cornwall returning from a skiing holiday in Scotland. But shop around for a policy before deciding which best suits your needs after considering the following:

- Do you want to insure personally or a specific vehicle?
- Will cover be for a partner and/or other members of the family?
- Will the car's age be a factor?

Ask what discounts are available as few motoring organisations volunteer such information. Green Flag, for instance, reduces its £145 top cover to £90 for National Trust members and donates 20 per cent to the Trust, while RSPB members can have £1 off roadside assistance with a 10 per cent donation. NUT members attract discounted rates such as roadside assistance for £37. The AA cuts its £70 relay service to any garage to £64 for people in the forces, emergency services, trade unions and registered disabled.

The RAC gives even higher discounts to similar groups with the £105 homestart and recovery to anywhere in the UK dropped to £83 and its roadside assistance with home help reduced from £66 to £57.

Further savings can be made by agreeing to pay by continuous credit card or direct debit: £5 with both the AA and RAC and £10 joining fee with the Environmental Transport Association. Joint membership can be useful. An extra £22 per annum can add a partner with the RAC and AA (raised to £23 for recovery to home or £24 to include homestart with the AA).

Family schemes can be good value: the RAC allows up to five people at the same address to be added for £42 while the AA's basic package can cost £87 for extending joint cover to two other members of your family under 21 living at home.

A second car with Autohome costs £27.70 for oneself or a spouse and £34 for any driver at the same address for its basic service. Britannia Rescue charges £15.75 to increase cover to two cars for two people for help to the nearest garage. The ETA will add a second vehicle under ten years old for £14 and over this age for £23, while Europ Assistance charges £35 for an extra car.

Speed of reaching a stranded motorist is the key factor. *Which?*, the consumer guide, reported that Britannia Rescue came top of four motoring organisations surveyed: a speedy 33 minutes, compared with 38 minutes at Green Flag (formerly National Breakdown), 43 with RAC and almost an hour (57mins) with the AA. This was based on 934 breakdowns over a ten-month period.

The cost of overnight accommodation can be considerable, even if you are towed to the nearest garage. The same report found that about 40 per cent of motorists could not continue their journey although the AA and RAC fixed more cars than the other two firms surveyed.

It may therefore be a false economy to pay for the most basic service. Instead, opt for having your car brought to the destination of your choice — which may be your holiday or business location or a garage close to home. The breakdown services usually also offer help for a problem at home for an extra fee. Europ Assistance, which works with a network of 1,600 approved garages and 13,000 recovery vehicles, excludes assistance within a mile from home. If you need that cover, an extra £40 is levied *each* time.

Free 24-hour car hire after an accident or breakdown where recovery would otherwise be necessary together with a single rail ticket to return to the repairer are offered in the "recovery plus" package of the Environmental Transport Association, which campaigns for alternatives to increased road building.

Increasingly motoring breakdown schemes are introducing no claims discounts. The oldest, the RAC, takes £25 upon renewal off its £105 rate for assistance at home which includes to the destination of your choice if no call out has been made. Autohome discounts by £2.50 after one year, £5 after two years and £8 after three years, if no call outs are made.

Autonational reduces its £32 service to £24 after one year's no claims and its help for destination to home including homestart from £69.33 to £52.

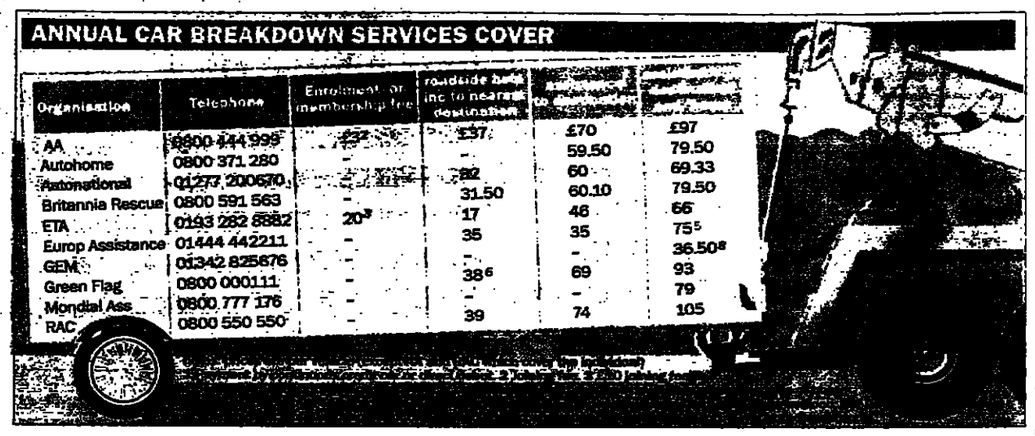
Another way to secure a lower rate is to pay for two or three years forward. Europ Assistance offers two years for £65 and three years at £95. Caravans and trailers are covered free of charge.

The Guild of Experienced Motorists (GEM) charges only £36.50 which includes returning to the destination of your choice.

A partner may be added for an additional £8.50. However the motorist has to pay all the charges and reclaim them from GEM later.

**ANNUAL CAR BREAKDOWN SERVICES COVER**

| Organisation | Telephone | Enrolment or membership fee | roadside help inc to nearest destination | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AA | 0800 444 999 | £32 | £37 | £70 | £97 |
| Autohome | 0800 371 280 | – | – | 59.50 | 79.50 |
| Autonational | 01277 200630 | – | 32 | 60 | 69.33 |
| Britannia Rescue | 0800 591 563 | – | 31.50 | 60.10 | 79.50 |
| ETA | 0193 282 8882 | 20[3] | 17 | 46 | 66 |
| Europ Assistance | 01444 442211 | – | 35 | 35 | 75[5] |
| GEM | 01342 825676 | – | – | – | 36.50[8] |
| Green Flag | 0800 000111 | – | 38[6] | 69 | 93 |
| Mondial Ass | 0800 777 176 | – | – | – | 79 |
| RAC | 0800 550 550 | – | 39 | 74 | 105 |





Thousands of drivers are affected by snow each year


Surrendering your policy?
If it's a with-profits endowment policy, there is an alternative.
Neville James.
We pay more

- Prompt valuations, firm offers
- No charge to sellers
- Our own staff, 12 hours a day, 7 days a week 8.00 a.m to 8.00 p.m

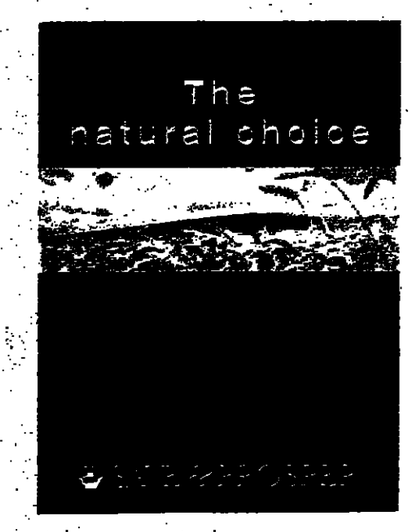
PLEASE CALL NOW
01243 52 00 00
OR FAX
01243 52 00 01
E-mail: pfunes@neville-james.co.uk

Neville JAMES
The Traded Endowment Professionals

Neville James Limited, Forum Integralis, West Pallant, Chichester, PO19 1TB
Neville James Limited (NJL) is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and is a member of the Association of Policy Market Makers. NJL acts as agent for investment companies in the purchase and sale of Endowment Policies.

CASHING IN YOUR ENDOWMENT ?
IT'S EASY TO GET MORE
We regularly pay up to 30% MORE* than the surrender value for with profits endowment and whole life policies.
Life Company Offered £16,311
Policy Portfolio Price £21,100
*For policies which are at least 6 years old and have a surrender value greater than £2,000.
Don't lose out - contact Policy Portfolio Plc today.
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority
POLICY PORTFOLIO
T 1715
TEL: 0181 343 4567 Lines Open 24 Hours 7 Days a week
Gadd House, Arcadia Avenue, London N3 2JU

FOR THE INVESTMENT MAZE. A GUIDE.




Looking to invest in a PEP but don't know where to turn? Try our new easy to follow Investment Guide. From our range of funds covering most investment needs, we've specially selected five, which have achieved top performance within their sectors. And all this from a company that according to Money Marketing is among only four unit trust companies to achieve this consistency of high performance*. So before you invest in anything, read this Guide. Or call us – 8 am to 9 pm seven days a week – to discuss your personal investment requirements. We'll be happy to point you in the right direction.

0800 829 100

SAVE & PROSPER

DON'T JUST SAVE, SAVE AND PROSPER

*Source: UK Funds Survey, November 1997. If you are not sure if these funds are suitable for you, please call 0800 829 100 and ask to speak to one of our trained advisers. The value of investments, and any income from them, can fall as well as rise and you may not get back the amount invested. Tax concessions are not guaranteed; their value will depend on your circumstances. Exchange rates may also affect performance. Past performance is not a guide to future returns. It has been announced that from 6th April 1999 it will not be possible to invest in a PEP. However, the Government plans to introduce Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) and Save & Prosper aims to be at the forefront of ISA development. In the meantime you will not be disadvantaged by investing in a PEP. Save & Prosper is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO. We only advise on products and services offered by the Flemings and Save & Prosper Marketing Group. 1936/001

Turn your pension fund into a very equitable income.

In order to relax and enjoy a comfortable standard of living in retirement you need to find a way of making your pension fund work as hard as possible.

Traditionally, the usual choice of pension has been one providing fixed payments. Now, at The Equitable Life, you can choose from a wide range of annuity options.

We offer with-profits and unit-linked annuities, as well as index-linked and guaranteed annuities. For those who want greater flexibility, managed pensions and staggered vesting facilities are also available.

No one else offers a choice this wide.

If you would like to find out more about how to enjoy an Equitable income in retirement then call us on (0990) 38 48 58 or return the coupon below for more information by post and by telephone.

www.equitable.co.uk

For your security your telephone call may be recorded
Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority
THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life. FREEPOST. Walton Street. AYLESBURY. Bucks HP21 7BR
I would welcome information on the Equitable range of annuities ☐
I expect to take the benefits from a personal pension plan in the near future ☐
TMNJ8A
NAME (Mr Mrs Miss) _____
ADDRESS _____
Tel. (Office) _____ Postcode _____
Tel. (Home) _____
Date of Birth _____
We guarantee that no company outside The Equitable and its subsidiaries will receive these details. If, however, you would prefer to receive no further information from us, please tick this box ☐
Founded 1762
The Equitable Life
You profit from our principles

# THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

## No-claims discount on travel policies

The Retirement Insurance Advisory Service (RIAS) is offering a no-claims discount on annual travel insurance. Although the policy is available to anyone, it is designed specifically for those in, or approaching, retirement. When a policy is taken out for the first time, a 20 per cent introductory discount will be offered. This will continue until a claim is made. Call 0800 552100 for more details.

■ The travel insurance service offered by the Halifax has been improved for 1998. Premiums for travellers over 65 have been reviewed, resulting in halved rates for many people. A new medical screening service has been introduced to provide an immediate decision on customers with existing health conditions. The Halifax intends that policy documentation will be issued within 48 hours and has pledged to make no increases in the level of travel premiums in 1998. Call 01243 817725.

■ Citibank has added travel insurance to its range of services. Its annual policy insures customers for any number of trips (holiday or business) of up to 60 days with 17 days of winter sports cover included. Premiums start at £85 per person. In addition, every Citibank customer who purchases travel tickets using a Citibank cheque, Citicard or Citibank Visa Card will automatically receive free travel accident insurance and free worldwide flight departure compensation. For more information, call 0800 008800.

■ If a lump sum of £400 had been invested in a building society 18 years ago, it would now be worth £1,278. Flemings reveals in its free guide, *Saving for Children*, how the money could be worth eleven times this amount if an investment trust had been chosen instead. Call 0500 500 161.

■ A practical overview of the process involved in a management buyout (MBO) and a management buy-in (MBI) is provided in a free guide published by BDI Stoy Hayward, the chartered accountant. *The Manager's Guide to Buy-Outs and Buy-Ins* aims to simplify a subject that can appear complex and confusing. Call 0171 893 2803 Monday-Friday for a copy.

LIZANNE ROSE

### SAVERS' BEST BUYS

| INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS | Account | Notice of term | Deposit | Rate | Interest paid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Woolwich 0800 222200 | Card Saver | Instant | £50 | 7.00 | Yly |
| C&G 0800 742437 | Instant Transfer | InstantB | £1,000 | 7.25 | Yly |
| Coventry BS 0345 665522 | First Instant | Postal | £5,000 | 7.20 | Yly |
| Alliance & Leic 0845 6088860 | First Cls Inst | Postal | £10,000 | 7.50 | Yly |

| NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS | Account | Notice of term | Deposit | Rate | Interest paid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bristol & West 0800 202121 | Postal 30 | 30 day p | £10,000 | 7.80 | Yly |
| Legal & General Bank 0500 111200 | 60 Direct | 60 day p | £2,500 | 7.65 | Yly |
| Northern Rock 0500 505000 | Select 90 | 90 day p | £10,000 | 7.90 | Yly |
| Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650 | Base Plus | 1 year | £2,001 | 8.00 | OM |

| FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE) | Account | Notice of term | Deposit | Rate | Interest paid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Melton Mowray BS 0800 731 7385 | | 5 year | £1,000 | 7.90 | Yly |
| Norwich & Peterborough 01733 372222 | | 5 year | £100 | 7.85 | Yly |
| Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505 | | 5 year | £3,000 | 7.85 | Yly |
| Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650 | Premier+feeder | 5 year | £9,000 | 7.85 | Yly |

### CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

| CREDIT CARDS | Card type | Interest per month | APR% | Fee per annum |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Capital One Bank 0800 669000 | Visa | 0.57%N | 6.90%N | Nil |
| RBS Advanta 0800 077770 | Visa | 0.64%N | 7.90%N | Nil |
| Co-operative Bank 0800 109000 | Advantage Visa | 0.69%NC | 8.60%N | Nil |

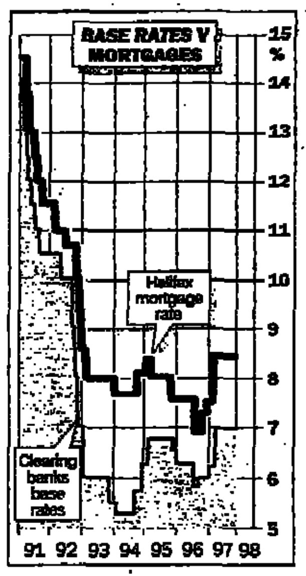
### PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

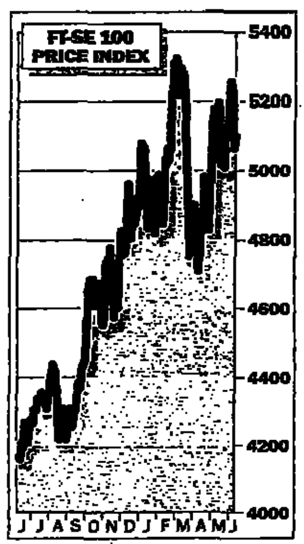
| PERSONAL LOANS | APR | Monthly payment on £5,000 for 3yrs with insurance | no insurance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Rock BS 0345 421421 | 9.90%H | £183.13 | £166.11 |
| Direct Line 0181 680 9966 | 12.80%A | £183.75 | £166.38 |
| RBS Direct 0800 121125 | 12.80% | £188.15 | £166.38 |

NB. A = Minimum age 22 years, B = Withdrawals via Bank Clearing System, C = no interest free period, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), H = If insurance not arranged APR 12.7 per cent, N = Introductory rate for a limited period, OM = Interest paid on maturity, P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

*Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates* (01692 500 677)




### NATIONAL SAVINGS

| | Gross rate | At tax rates 20% | 40% | Min/maximum investment £ | Notice | Contact |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ordinary A/c¹ | 2.00 | 1.60 | 1.20 | 10-10,000** | | 0645 645000 |
| Investment A/c*₈ | 4.75 | 3.80 | 2.85 | 1-499**⁷ | 1mth | 0645 645000 |
| Income Bond* ₈ | 7.00 | 5.60 | 4.20 | 2,000-25,000** | 3mth | 0645 645000 |
| First Opt Bond₄ | 6.75 | 5.40 | 4.05 | 1,000-20,000** | | 0645 645000 |
| 45th Issue Certt₂ ₃ | 5.00 | | | 100-10,000 | 8day | 0645 645000 |
| Children's Bond† | 6.25 | | | 25-1,000 | 1mth | 0645 645000 |
| Gen Ext Rate | 3.51 | | | | | 0645 645000 |
| Capital Bond₃ ₆ | 6.25 | 5.00 | 3.75 | 100-250,000 | 8day | 0645 645000 |
| 12th Ind Linked†₃ | 2.50 | | | 100-10,000 | 8day | 0645 645000 |
| Pensnrs Bond S4 ₄ | 6.50 | 5.20 | 3.90 | 500-50,000₅ | 60day | 0645 645000 |

¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst acce for up to £100 ² Unlimited additional hldgs for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ₃Guaranteed when held for 5 years ⁴0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ ⁵£100,000 jt in addition to S1, S2 and S3 holdings ⁶Taxable but cred in full ⁷£500-100,000 earn higher rates **Tiered rates apply

### PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

| SINGLE LIFE (level ann) | Male: | Age 60 | Age 65 | Age 70 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sun Life ............Level | | £ 8,781 | £ 9,910 | £11,433 |
| Comm Union .......Level | | £ 8,592 | £ 9,902 | £11,622 |
| Equitable Lf.........Level | | £ 8,871 | £ 9,883 | £11,271 |
| Canada Life..........Level | | £ 8,677 | £ 9,781 | £11,279 |
| NPI ......................Level | | £ 8,718 | £ 9,749 | £11,133 |

| SINGLE LIFE | Female: | Age 60 | Age 65 | Age 70 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Prudential ............Level | | £8,193 | £ 8,911 | £10,111 |
| Equitable Life.......Level | | £8,176 | £ 8,909 | £ 9,971 |
| Generali ...............Level | | £7,941 | £ 8,879 | £10,164 |
| Canada Life .........Level | | £7,963 | £ 8,799 | £10,008 |
| Sun Life ...............Level | | £7,953 | £ 8,770 | £ 9,949 |

| JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity) | Male: Female: | Age 60 Age 55 | Age 65 Age 60 | Age 70 Age 65 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Equitable Life.......Level | | £7,807 | £8,384 | £ 9,197 |
| Generali ...............Level | | £7,561 | £8,226 | £ 9,133 |
| Prudential .............Level | | £7,622 | £8,221 | £ 8,985 |
| Sun Life ...............Level | | £7,513 | £8,121 | £ 8,937 |
| Norwich Union.......Level | | £7,553 | £8,111 | £ 8,910 |

*Source: Annuity Direct (0171 684 5000)*

**Statistics compiled by Lizanne Rose**

### GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at January 15, 1998

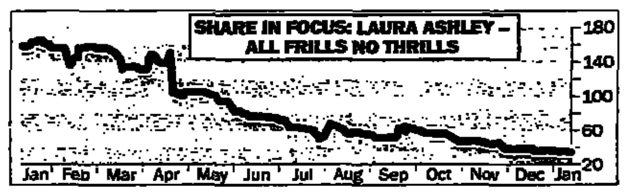
| | Investment (£) | Company | Standard Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 Year | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.20 |
| | 5,000 | GE Fin Assur | 6.35 |
| | 10,000 | GE Fin Assur | 6.85 |
| 2 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.15 |
| | 3,000 | ITT Lon & Edin | 6.10 |
| | 20,000 | GE Fin Assur | 6.15 |
| | 50,000 | GE Fin Assur | 6.25 |
| 3 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.30 |
| | 3,000 | ITT London & Ed | 6.30 |
| 4 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.55 |
| | 3,000 | ITT London & Ed | 6.15 |
| 5 Years | | | |
| | 1,000 | Hambro Assured | 5.60 |
| | 3,000 | ITT London & Ed | 5.90 |

Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

### PIBS

| FIXED RATE | Gross coupon | Buying price | % Gross yield | Issue price | Minimum purchase amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Birmingham Midshires | 9.375% | 126.50 | 7.410 | 100.17 | 1,000 |
| Bradford & Bingley | 11.625% | 157.50 | 7.380 | 100.13 | 10,000 |
| Bradford & Bingley | 13.000% | 175.75 | 7.400 | 100.20 | 10,000 |
| Britannia | 13.000% | 175.00 | 7.430 | 100.42 | 1,000 |
| Coventry | 12.125% | 182.25 | 7.470 | 100.75 | 1,000 |
| First National | 11.750% | 158.50 | 7.410 | 100.25 | 10,000 |
| Leeds & Holbeck | 13.375% | 184.50 | 7.250 | 100.23 | 1,000 |
| Newcastle | 10.750% | 148.75 | 7.230 | 100.32 | 1,000 |
| Newcastle | 12.625% | 174.50 | 7.230 | 100.45 | 1,000 |
| Skipton | 12.875% | 179.25 | 7.180 | 100.48 | 1,000 |
| **PERPETUAL SUBORDINATED BONDS** | | | | | |
| Chelt & Gloucester | 11.750% | 164.00 | 7.160 | 100.98 | 50,000 |
| Halifax | 8.750% | 118.75 | 7.370 | 100.62 | 50,000 |
| Halifax | 12.000% | 155.50 | 7.720 | 100.28 | 50,000 |
| Halifax | 13.630% | 190.00 | 7.170 | 100.00 | 50,000 |
| Bristol & West | 13.380% | 179.75 | 7.440 | 100.34 | 1,000 |
| Northern Rock | 12.625% | 170.25 | 7.420 | 100.14 | 1,000 |

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares. *Source:* NatWest Markets




### LARGER LENDERS

| Lender | Interest rate % | Loan size | Max % | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Building Societies** | | | | |
| Chelsea 0800 291291 | 5.39 | £20-150k | 80 | Fixed to 1.2.00 |
| Nationwide 0800 302010 | 5.75 | to £300k | 90 | 2.35% discount for 2 years |
| Britannia 0800 526350 | 5.74 | No max | 80 | Fixed for 2 yrs |
| **Banks** | | | | |
| Bank of Ireland 01189 510100 | 0.99 | £20-145k | 95 | Fixed for 6 mths 3% disc-6 mths |
| Northern Rock 0845 6050500 | 3.99 | to £250k | 75 | Fixed to 1.2.00 |

### LARGER LOANS

| Lender | Interest rate % | Loan size | Max % | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***Building Societies*** | | | | |
| Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220 | 0.75 | £25-150k | 75 | Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98 |
| Leeds & Holbeck 0113 225 7777 | 1.20 | to £180k | 95 | 7% dsc-6 mths, 1% dsc-6 mths |
| Scarborough 0990 133149 | 0.99 | £15-100k | 95 | 7.70% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1y |
| **Banks** | | | | |
| Bank of Ireland 01189 510100 | 0.99 | £20-145k | 95 | Fixed for 6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth |
| Northern Rock 0845 6050500 | 3.99 | to £250k | 75 | Fixed at 3.99% to 1.2.00 |

### FIRST-TIME BUYERS

| Lender | Interest rate % | Loan size | Max % | Notes |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Building Societies** | | | | |
| Newbury 01635 43676 | 4.85 | £30-100k | 95 | 3% discount for 1 year |
| Mansfield 01246 202055 | 2.20 | £25-250k | 90 | 6% discount-6 mth Further dsc apply |
| Cheshire 0800 243278 | 6.29 | £30-150k | 95 | 2% discount for 2 years |
| **Banks** | | | | |
| Bnk of Ireland 01189 510100 | 0.99 | £20-145k | 95 | Fixed for 6 mths, 3% disc 6 mths |
| Bristol & West 0800 119955 | 3.49 | £15k+ | 95 | Fixed to 1.1.99 |

*Larger lenders, loans and first-time buyers tables by Bay's Guides Ltd. (01753 880482)*


THE TIMES
THE SUCCESS STORY OF THE NINETIES
CAN YOU ALWAYS GET YOUR COPY?
Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of THE TIMES
Name.........................................
Address.........................................
.........................Postcode.................


### UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

**AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE**
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH12 9SE
0131 339 9191

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Balanced | 574.20 | 607.70 | +1.80 | ... |
| UK Equity | 812.10 | 859.40 | +1.90 | ... |
| Property | 454.90 | 481.40 | +0.50 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 375.70 | 397.60 | -0.70 | . |
| Money | 283.40 | 299.90 | +0.20 | .. |
| International | 439.90 | 465.50 | +3.20 | . |

**ABBEY LIFE**
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL
01202 292373

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Custodian S4 | 219.00 | 231.20 | ... | 0.00 |
| Ethical S4 | 184.10 | 194.10 | +3.00 | . |
| International S4 | 217.60 | 229.10 | -0.70 | . |
| Protected Gth S4 | 131.60 | 138.60 | -0.20 | .. |
| Asian Pacific | 130.90 | 137.90 | -0.10 | . |
| European S4 | 266.30 | 280.40 | -3.30 | .. |
| Prop Fd Ser 4 | 452.40 | 476.30 | +27.40 | . |
| Equity Ser 4 | [illegible] | 435.60 | +1.90 | ... |
| Man Ser 4 | 863.10 | 908.60 | -3.50 | . |
| Conv Ser 4 | 371.40 | 391.00 | +0.40 | ... |
| Money Ser 4 | 371.00 | 390.60 | +0.40 | . |
| Fixed Int Ser 4 | 451.70 | 475.50 | -1.10 | .. |
| American Ser 4 | 835.70 | 879.70 | -7.90 | .. |
| High Inc Ser 4 | 1000.00 | 1052.70 | +2.30 | .. |
| Indexed Ins Ser 4 | 259.90 | 273.60 | -0.30 | ... |
| Japan Ser 4 | 234.60 | 247.00 | +8.00 | . |
| Formerly Hill Samuel Life Assurance Ltd | | | | |
| Security Fund | 814.10 | 861.90 | +7.00 | .. |
| British Fund | 863.20 | 913.50 | +9.50 | |
| International | 702.90 | 743.90 | +0.80 | . |
| Dollar Fund | 667.40 | 706.30 | -6.40 | . |
| Capital Fund | 670.70 | 709.90 | +3.00 | |
| Income Fund | 1077.50 | 1140.30 | +8.30 | . |
| Property Series A | 596.20 | 631.40 | +2.60 | 4.70 |
| Property Units | 979.60 | 1028.60 | +4.20 | .. |
| Financial Fund | 1026.70 | 1086.60 | +9.30 | . |
| Managed Ser A | 744.50 | 787.90 | +2.00 | |
| Managed Units | 1347.20 | 1419.00 | +4.70 | |
| High Yield Fund | 975.40 | 1032.70 | +7.30 | |
| Money Series A | 328.30 | 347.50 | +0.40 | |
| Money Units | 440.40 | 463.60 | +0.40 | |
| Equity Fund | 956.30 | 1006.20 | +1.50 | . |
| Fixed Interest | 482.90 | 511.10 | -1.40 | |
| Indexed Secs | 225.30 | 238.50 | +0.20 | |
| European Fund | 1079.00 | 1141.80 | -15.40 | . |
| Natural Res | 242.40 | 256.60 | -2.30 | .. |
| Far East Fund | 433.30 | 458.60 | +5.00 | . |
| Smaller Cos | 701.40 | 742.70 | +0.10 | |
| Special Sits | 741.40 | 784.60 | +4.00 | |
| Man Currency | 293.00 | 310.10 | -0.90 | |
| Japanese Tech | 236.90 | 250.30 | +4.50 | . |
| US Smaller Cos | 515.40 | 545.40 | -7.30 | . |
| Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd | | | | |
| Deposit | 280.90 | 295.70 | +0.20 | |
| Financial Ser 2 | 62.50 | [illegible] | +1.10 | |
| Fixed Interest | 406.30 | 429.40 | -0.90 | . |
| Gold | 52.90 | [illegible] | +0.30 | |
| Managed | 918.10 | 961.20 | +3.70 | |
| Mngd Growth | 261.40 | 275.20 | +0.90 | |
| Property | 392.10 | 410.00 | | . |
| Residential Prop | 125.20 | 131.80 | | . |
| TSB American | 384.20 | 404.50 | -3.00 | .. |
| TSB Brit Gwth | 1374.10 | 1454.40 | +17.30 | |
| TSB European | 400.50 | 421.60 | -5.20 | |
| TSB Income | 629.90 | 659.40 | +3.10 | |
| TSB Intl | 536.70 | 565.00 | +0.00 | . |
| TSB Pacific | 304.00 | 320.70 | +3.80 | . |

For Albany Life see Canada Life

**ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE**
Swindon SN1 1EL
01793 514514

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fxd Int Dep Acc | 423.70 | 446.00 | +0.40 | |
| Equity Acc | 1947.10 | 2049.60 | +13.90 | |
| Property Acc | 752.10 | 791.70 | +0.50 | |
| Far East Acc | 229.20 | 241.30 | +6.00 | .. |
| Managed Capital | 675.50 | 711.00 | +3.40 | |
| -do- Acc | 1442.10 | 1518.20 | +7.60 | |
| Overseas Acc | 1421.20 | 1496.20 | -5.20 | |
| Gilt Edged Acc | 635.10 | 668.50 | -1.20 | |
| Amer Equity Acc | 1359.20 | 1430.80 | -17.40 | . |
| Amer Man Acc | 564.00 | 594.00 | -6.00 | .. |
| Amer Prop Acc | 134.20 | 141.30 | -0.00 | . |
| Distribution Bond | 28.50 | 30.00 | +0.10 | . |

**AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE**
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks
01494 463463

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reserve Ser 6 | 190.00 | 200.00 | -0.30 | . |
| Balced Ser 6 | 962.80 | 1013.50 | -6.90 | . |
| Opportunity Ser 6 | 221.50 | 233.20 | -2.50 | .. |
| Distribution Ser 6 | 114.90 | 121.00 | -0.20 | 6.13 |
| UK Equities Ser 6 | 1498.30 | 1577.00 | -10.70 | . |
| Higher Inc Ser 6 | 1067.00 | [illegible] | -6.90 | . |
| North Amer Ser 6 | 678.90 | 714.70 | -5.30 | |
| Far East Ser 6 | 404.60 | 426.00 | -2.10 | |
| Europe Ser 6 | 579.10 | 610.00 | -7.10 | |
| Intnl Ser 6 | 689.70 | 726.10 | -7.20 | .. |
| Property Ser 6 | 527.00 | 555.00 | -2.20 | |
| Fixed Int Ser 6 | 542.80 | 571.40 | -0.70 | |
| Ind-Lnkd Sec S6 | 227.60 | 239.60 | +0.70 | |
| Gteed Dep Ser 6 | 356.70 | 375.50 | +0.20 | |

**BARCLAYS LIFE**
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB
0181 534 5544

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Equity Acc | 1300.50 | 1320.00 | +4.20 | . |
| -do- Initial | 771.50 | 812.20 | +2.50 | |
| Gilt Edged Acc | 506.60 | 533.50 | +6.90 | |
| -do- Initial | 303.10 | 319.10 | -0.50 | .. |
| International Acc | 465.60 | 490.20 | +0.40 | |
| -do- Initial | 276.70 | 291.30 | +0.20 | |
| Managed Acc | 713.60 | 751.20 | +1.80 | .. |
| -do- Initial | 425.60 | 448.10 | +1.00 | . |
| Money Acc | 328.90 | 346.20 | +0.30 | |
| Property Acc | 353.10 | 371.70 | +0.30 | ... |
| -do- Initial | 211.10 | 222.30 | +0.10 | |
| America Acc | 479.50 | 504.80 | -6.60 | |
| Far East Gwth | 150.00 | 158.00 | -4.20 | |
| Financial Acc | 605.40 | 637.30 | -1.60 | |
| 500 Accum | 559.70 | 589.20 | -0.80 | .. |
| Japan Acc | 186.00 | 195.80 | +11.00 | ... |
| Income Acc | 298.30 | 314.30 | -0.10 | . |
| Special Sits Acc | 402.50 | 423.70 | +3.90 | |
| Unit Tech Acc | 198.70 | 209.20 | +0.90 | ... |

**BLACK HORSE LIFE**
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF
01634 834000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| The Managed Fd | 1082.16 | 1082.16 | -12.30 | . |
| Income Fund | 1115.90 | 1174.53 | -10.33 | .. |
| Extra Income | 1014.19 | 1067.57 | -8.83 | ... |
| Worldwide Gth | 606.49 | 638.42 | -13.68 | ... |
| Balanced Fund | 976.94 | 1028.36 | -6.55 | ... |
| Smllr Cos Recov | 1117.07 | 1175.87 | +6.24 | ... |
| N Amer & Genrl | 571.05 | 601.11 | -8.04 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 240.94 | 253.63 | -5.39 | .. |
| German Growth | 304.74 | 320.78 | -11.55 | .. |
| Japan Growth | 128.75 | 135.53 | -1.87 | ... |
| The UK Gilt Fd | 316.16 | 332.80 | -2.25 | .. |
| Contl Euro Gth | 192.87 | 203.03 | -6.17 | ... |
| Property Fund | 451.61 | 475.39 | +0.51 | . |
| Fixed Interest | 424.28 | 446.62 | -0.21 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 319.99 | 336.84 | -0.31 | ... |
| Managed Inv | 640.88 | 674.62 | -7.81 | ... |
| Nth Amer Recov | 368.49 | 388.42 | -7.81 | .. |

**BRITANNIA**
50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR
0141 248 2000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Measured Perf | 226.80 | 240.00 | -1.30 | .. |
| Performance Plus | 247.80 | 262.30 | -2.40 | .. |
| With Profit Perf | 200.70 | 212.30 | +0.20 | .. |
| UK Opportunity | 310.30 | 328.30 | +4.30 | .. |
| Euro Opportunity | 314.90 | 333.10 | -9.30 | .. |
| North Amer Opp | 295.20 | 312.40 | -3.40 | .. |
| Far East Opp | 158.70 | 167.80 | -0.30 | .. |
| Gwth Prop Ser 1 | 180.90 | 190.90 | . | .. |
| Gth Prop Ser 2 | 218.00 | 230.70 | +0.20 | .. |
| Fixed Int | 262.70 | 277.90 | -0.20 | . |
| Cash | 179.10 | 189.40 | +0.10 | 6.49 |
| Overseas | 285.00 | 302.20 | -2.70 | .. |
| Formerly LAS | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 475.10 | 501.20 | +2.80 | |
| UK Equity | 939.30 | 993.40 | +12.80 | ... |
| Property | 300.90 | 310.00 | +0.30 | .. |
| Money Market | 283.40 | 298.50 | +0.20 | .. |
| Fixed Interest | 381.60 | 401.70 | -0.30 | |
| Japan | 254.50 | 269.00 | -7.80 | . |
| North America | 262.70 | 276.60 | -3.00 | . |
| International | 441.50 | 464.60 | -4.20 | .. |
| European | 402.70 | 427.90 | -10.60 | |
| Far East | 117.50 | 123.70 | -0.20 | .. |

**CANADA LIFE**
26 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
01707 51122

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed | 441.30 | 465.20 | -6.10 | |
| Property | 307.60 | 319.00 | +0.10 | . |
| Gilt & Fxd Int | 303.30 | 319.00 | -0.10 | . |
| Equity | 561.30 | 591.30 | -7.50 | . |
| Cash | 242.20 | 255.00 | +0.30 | |
| CLife Euro Med | 518.00 | 545.50 | -11.90 | |
| CLife Intl Fd | 352.10 | 370.70 | -11.00 | . |
| Managed Fund | 863.50 | 909.20 | -12.90 | |
| Property Fund | 630.90 | 662.40 | +0.00 | |
| Equity Fund | 1346.10 | 1419.00 | -14.20 | |
| Gilt Edged Fd | 401.60 | 422.70 | -0.40 | |
| Deposit Fund | 279.60 | 294.60 | +0.20 | . |
| Investment Fd | 616.70 | 647.50 | -11.70 | . |
| International | 561.40 | 591.00 | -14.50 | . |
| Formerly Albany Life | | | | |
| UK Equity | 2262.40 | 2381.50 | -10.40 | ... |
| Merc European | 573.50 | 603.60 | -0.60 | . |
| Merc Fxd Int | 638.90 | 672.50 | -0.00 | |
| Gtd Money | 277.90 | 292.70 | +0.40 | |
| Mercury Intl Mngd | 517.20 | 547.30 | -0.90 | . |
| Merc Intl Fxd Int | 384.50 | 404.70 | +1.10 | |
| Mercury Japan | 259.10 | 272.50 | +5.00 | |
| Merc Nth Amer | 509.50 | 535.20 | -5.70 | . |
| UK Property | 517.90 | 546.50 | +3.00 | |
| Merc Multiple Inv | 1357.70 | 1429.10 | -5.30 | . |

**CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE**
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NL. 01908 606101

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Property Fund | 211.40 | 222.60 | | |
| Managed Fund | 966.50 | 1012.20 | -12.00 | . |
| Equity Fund | 532.00 | 561.00 | -6.50 | .. |

**CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS**
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Assurance Funds | | | | |
| Sapphire Mixed | 396.70 | 419.20 | +2.10 | .. |
| Ruby | 209.00 | 220.10 | +1.70 | |
| Emerald | 176.60 | 186.00 | +0.10 | |
| Equity | 492.10 | 519.60 | +3.60 | |
| Property | 260.40 | 274.22 | +0.00 | |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 263.60 | 277.51 | -0.40 | |
| Indexed Secs | 207.00 | 217.90 | +0.10 | .. |
| Cash | 211.27 | 222.40 | +0.20 | |
| Nth American | 374.40 | 394.40 | -2.90 | |
| Far East | 222.10 | 233.90 | +4.20 | .. |
| International | 285.10 | 300.20 | +0.71 | |
| Special Sit | 534.60 | 562.00 | -1.70 | |
| Ind Income | 421.75 | 444.00 | +4.50 | |
| European | 512.00 | 539.70 | -2.10 | |
| Japanese | 94.50 | 99.50 | +7.30 | |
| SE Asia | 241.50 | 254.10 | +0.70 | |
| With Profits Bnr | 199.50 | 210.00 | +0.20 | |
| -do- Spec | 199.50 | 210.00 | +0.20 | ... |
| Flexible Retirement Plan Funds | | | | |
| Mixed | 463.20 | 487.60 | +4.50 | |
| Equity | 632.90 | 666.20 | +5.70 | .. |
| Property | 240.40 | 253.00 | +0.40 | |
| Gilt & Fixed Int | 349.10 | 367.50 | -0.30 | .. |
| Index Linked | 224.30 | 235.60 | +0.10 | .. |
| Cash | 284.20 | 299.20 | +0.20 | .. |
| Nth American | 471.30 | 496.20 | -7.40 | |
| Far East Acc | 210.60 | 221.70 | +6.10 | |
| International Acc | 733.30 | 772.00 | +2.50 | |
| Special Sits | 809.20 | 850.90 | +4.10 | . |
| European Flex | 737.90 | 776.90 | -4.50 | |

**COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP**
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY 01634 890 000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Family Key 2 | 204.20 | . | -4.70 | |
| -do- Performance 1 | 423.35 | ... | -6.72 | . |
| -do- Cash | 225.12 | 239.28 | +0.21 | |
| -do- Equity | 774.07 | 814.81 | +1.10 | |
| -do- Fxd Int | 457.74 | 481.83 | -1.00 | ... |
| -do- Managed | 544.07 | 572.74 | -1.02 | |
| -do- Property | 433.91 | 456.74 | +1.55 | |
| (Pens) Cash Cap | 220.08 | 231.65 | +0.10 | |
| -do- Cash Inv | 359.20 | 378.21 | +0.46 | ... |
| -do- Equity Cap | 2013.09 | 2119.06 | +7.24 | ... |
| -do- Equity Inv | 3287.10 | 3460.11 | +14.13 | ... |
| -do- Fixed Cap | 492.53 | 518.46 | -1.70 | ... |
| -do- Fixed Inv | 804.23 | 846.57 | -2.20 | ... |
| -do- Index Cap | 234.23 | 246.57 | +0.14 | ... |
| -do- Index Inv | 382.46 | 402.60 | +0.49 | ... |
| -do- Mngd Cap | 787.65 | 829.12 | +0.03 | ... |
| -do- Mnged Inv | 1286.13 | 1353.83 | +0.06 | ... |

**COMMERCIAL UNION**
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Var Ann Acc (5) 1 | 113.75 | | -27.34 | .. |
| Var Ann (5) 1 | 124.02 | | -2.69 | ... |
| Prime Managed | 544.00 | 572.70 | +3.90 | |
| Prime UK Equity | 747.90 | 787.30 | +5.70 | |
| Prime Int Equity | 338.30 | 356.20 | +3.00 | |
| Prime Property | 279.40 | 294.20 | +1.40 | |
| Prime Fxd Int | 287.50 | 302.70 | -0.40 | |
| Prime Index-Lnk | 206.00 | 217.50 | -2.30 | |
| Prime Cash | 232.40 | 244.70 | +0.20 | |

**CONFEDERATION LIFE**
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
01438 744840

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Fund | 1466.90 | 1544.10 | -31.90 | .. |
| Equity II | 2325.20 | 2447.50 | -56.00 | .. |

**EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE**
Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham, GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Life Funds | | | | |
| Ut Wth Pfts (5ab) 1 | 119.50 | .. | +0.20 | |
| Secure (2) 1 | 124.00 | .. | +0.10 | |
| Managed (3) 1 | 130.40 | .. | +1.10 | |
| Equity Mixed (3) 1 | 129.00 | .. | +0.70 | |
| Adventurous (3) 1 | 116.20 | .. | +0.30 | |
| Bristol & West (2) 1 | 114.90 | .. | +0.10 | |
| Equity Mgd 51 | 313.50 | 330.10 | +1.70 | |
| Managed 51 | 314.30 | 330.90 | +2.60 | |
| Adventurous 51 | 239.80 | 252.50 | +0.70 | |
| Managed (2) | 213.60 | 224.80 | +1.30 | |
| Eagle Mid Uts | 415.00 | 430.10 | +4.10 | 0.01 |
| Pension Funds | | | | |
| Unit With Pfts (5) 1 | 120.70 | .. | +0.20 | |
| Secure (2) 1 | 114.10 | .. | +0.10 | |
| Managed (2) 1 | 130.50 | .. | +1.30 | |
| Equity Mixed (2) 1 | 131.20 | .. | +0.80 | |
| Adventurous (2) 1 | 115.20 | .. | +0.50 | |
| Bristol & West (2) 1 | 110.40 | .. | +0.20 | |

**FRIENDS' PROVIDENT**
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH
01722 413366

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed | 424.70 | 447.10 | -4.60 | |
| UK Equity | 614.90 | 647.20 | -5.53 | |
| Stewardship | 507.70 | 534.50 | +7.50 | |
| Overseas Equity | 376.10 | 395.40 | -6.10 | |
| North American | 242.00 | 254.80 | -3.40 | |
| Pacific Basin | 121.30 | 127.70 | -1.35 | |
| European | 380.40 | 400.50 | -9.80 | |
| Property | 209.50 | 220.60 | +0.40 | |
| Fixed Interest | 306.20 | 322.40 | +0.40 | |
| Index Linked | 205.60 | 216.50 | +0.00 | |
| Cash | 227.50 | 239.50 | +0.20 | |
| FP Life Assurance ex NM | | | | |
| Fixed Interest | 679.00 | 714.70 | +1.20 | |
| Managed | 960.20 | 1010.70 | -0.10 | |
| Deposit | 389.30 | 409.70 | +0.40 | |
| Property | 583.70 | 614.40 | +1.20 | |
| American | 678.30 | 714.00 | -6.70 | |
| Australian | 659.00 | 693.50 | -12.50 | |
| European | 919.40 | 967.70 | -0.70 | |
| Income Acc | 1123.80 | 1182.90 | +3.40 | |
| -do- Dist | 609.70 | 642.20 | +2.30 | 4.19 |
| International | 400.90 | 422.00 | -2.10 | |
| Japan Smaller | 256.40 | 269.80 | +2.20 | |
| Singapore & Mal | 246.10 | 259.00 | +4.60 | |
| Tokyo Fund | 546.00 | 575.50 | +12.90 | |
| UK Equity | 860.00 | 905.20 | +0.80 | |
| CCM Vangd Mg | 1010.20 | 1072.80 | -0.70 | |

**GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD**
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS 0171 710 4567

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| GT Plan Far East | 243.20 | 256.10 | ... | |
| GT Plan Wwide | 602.40 | 634.20 | ... | |

**GAN LIFE & PENSIONS**
Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Portfolio Acc | 848.60 | 898.60 | +3.10 | |
| -do- Ins A | 848.50 | 893.30 | +3.30 | |
| UK Equity | 581.80 | 619.90 | +5.00 | |
| Gilt Plus | 247.10 | 260.30 | -0.40 | |
| Managed | 387.80 | 408.30 | +1.50 | |

**GENERAL ACCIDENT**
2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed | 281.50 | 296.30 | +2.50 | |
| Unitised Profit | 170.40 | 179.30 | +0.20 | |
| UK Equity | 439.70 | 462.70 | +5.00 | |
| Fixed Int | 242.40 | 255.00 | -0.50 | |
| Index-Linked | 199.70 | 210.20 | -0.70 | |
| Cash Deposit | 196.50 | 206.70 | +0.20 | |
| Property | 202.40 | 212.50 | +0.10 | |
| International | 214.50 | 225.70 | -1.10 | |
| American | 274.90 | 289.30 | -0.50 | |
| Japan | 176.40 | 186.00 | +8.20 | |
| Japan Smllr Cos | 181.00 | 190.80 | +8.20 | |
| European | 266.40 | 278.80 | -0.20 | |
| Pacific Fund | 180.10 | 189.50 | +4.10 | |
| Cons Life | 176.10 | 185.30 | +3.60 | |
| Formerly Provident Mutual | | | | |
| Managed Ord | 643.80 | 677.20 | +5.70 | |
| Managed Initial | 392.00 | 412.60 | +1.20 | |
| Equity Ord | 1112.00 | 1170.50 | +12.70 | |
| Equity Init | 677.60 | 713.30 | +7.40 | |
| I-Linked Gilt Ord | 243.60 | 256.40 | +0.30 | |
| I-Linked Gilt Init | 155.00 | 163.20 | ... | |
| Overs Equity Ord | 456.40 | 497.40 | +3.70 | |
| Overs Equity Init | 266.20 | 280.20 | +2.10 | |
| Property Ord | 314.20 | 330.50 | +0.30 | |
| Property Init | 191.30 | 201.40 | +0.10 | |
| Fixed Int Ord | 354.50 | 373.20 | -0.90 | |
| Fixed Int Init | 216.00 | 227.40 | -0.50 | |
| Deposit Ord | 234.40 | 246.70 | +0.20 | |
| -do- posit Initial | 142.80 | 150.30 | ... | |

**GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE**
Royal Exchange, London EC3. 0171 283 7101

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ass Prop Bds | 972.80 | 1013.40 | ... | |
| Managed Initial | 585.10 | 615.90 | -3.40 | |
| -do- Acc | 995.00 | 942.10 | -4.80 | |
| Equity Initial | 981.90 | 1033.50 | -5.10 | |
| -do- Acc | 1501.80 | 1580.80 | -7.00 | |
| Fixed Int Initial | 525.10 | 552.80 | -1.10 | |
| -do- Acc | 803.20 | 845.50 | -1.40 | |
| Intl Initial | 498.70 | 524.90 | -2.60 | |
| -do- Acc | 762.70 | 802.90 | -3.60 | |
| Nth Amer Initial | 292.30 | 307.70 | -2.70 | |
| -do- Acc | 406.90 | 428.30 | -3.60 | |
| Pacific Initial | 145.40 | 153.10 | +4.10 | |
| -do- Acc | 200.50 | 211.10 | +5.70 | |
| Property Initial | 200.30 | 210.90 | .. | |
| -do- Acc | 306.10 | 322.20 | | |
| Index-Lnkd Intl | 184.40 | 194.10 | .. | |
| -do- Acc | 256.70 | 270.20 | +0.20 | |
| Deposit Initial | 210.00 | 221.00 | +0.10 | |
| -do- Acc | 321.10 | 338.00 | +0.30 | |
| Euro Initial | 144.90 | 152.50 | -2.00 | |
| -do- Acc | 186.40 | 196.20 | -2.50 | |

**HALIFAX LIFE LTD**
PO Box 295, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Life Funds | | | | |
| Foundation | 35.04 | 36.98 | +0.12 | |
| Balanced | 34.61 | 36.46 | +0.17 | |
| Opportunity | 35.04 | 36.88 | +0.37 | |
| Deposit | 26.74 | 28.20 | +0.02 | |
| Pension Funds | | | | |
| Foundation S2 | 27.22 | 28.65 | +0.03 | |
| Balanced S2 | 27.48 | 28.93 | +0.12 | |
| Opportunity S2 | 26.72 | 28.13 | -0.11 | |
| Deposit S2 | 25.22 | 26.55 | +0.04 | |

**HAMBRO ASSURED**
Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs PR2 2PR. 01772 540000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed | 226.60 | 238.50 | -2.80 | |
| -do- Pens | 295.80 | 311.30 | -4.50 | |
| UK Equity | 262.90 | 276.70 | -3.50 | |
| -do- Pens | 327.20 | 344.30 | -5.30 | |
| International | 170.20 | 179.10 | -4.10 | |
| -do- Pens | 187.50 | 197.30 | -5.30 | |
| Deposit | 157.70 | 165.90 | +0.20 | |
| -do- Pens | 193.60 | 204.10 | +0.20 | |

For Hill Samuel see Abbey Life Assurance

**IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE**
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Global Managed | 767.50 | 808.40 | +13.70 | |
| Global Property | [illegible] | 368.60 | -9.60 | |
| Global Fixed Int | 606.30 | 695.10 | -10.40 | |
| Global Equity | 851.50 | 875.00 | +14.50 | |
| Global Cash | 242.20 | 254.90 | +1.90 | |

**LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE**
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE
01273 424000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B'sme Lnkd Init | 134.90 | 141.90 | | |
| -do- Acc | 203.20 | 213.90 | +0.20 | |
| Brit Opps Init | 204.30 | 215.10 | +1.60 | |
| -do- Acc | 275.20 | 292.90 | +2.10 | |
| Cash Initial | 173.20 | 182.40 | +0.20 | |
| -do- Acc | 327.00 | 344.60 | +0.50 | |
| Equity Initial | 939.90 | 989.40 | +6.40 | |
| -do- Acc | 1775.00 | 1868.50 | +12.00 | |
| Fixed Initial | 402.70 | 425.30 | -0.50 | |
| -do- Acc | 762.40 | 802.60 | -1.00 | |
| Index-Lnkd Gilt | 152.50 | 160.60 | +0.10 | |
| -do- Acc | 245.10 | 258.00 | +0.10 | |
| Intl Initial | 357.50 | 376.30 | -1.10 | |
| -do- Acc | 627.50 | 660.50 | -2.00 | |
| Managed Initial | 590.40 | 621.50 | +2.00 | |
| -do- Acc | 1126.00 | 1185.30 | +3.80 | |
| Property Initial | 256.20 | 269.70 | +0.30 | |
| -do- Acc | 466.00 | 490.50 | +0.50 | |

**LINCOLN**
The Quays, 101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 1LZ 01895 200 200

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Equity Units | 1554.20 | | +16.00 | ... |
| Property Units | 3304.00 | 3478.00 | +4.00 | ... |
| Bal nd Exec Unit | 9714.00 | 9173.00 | -31.00 | ... |
| 2nd Equity Acc | 940.90 | 990.30 | +4.30 | |
| 2nd High Inc Ac | 918.40 | 966.40 | +7.80 | |
| 2nd Property Acc | 296.20 | 311.70 | +0.40 | |
| 2nd Mngd 2 Acc | 216.80 | 228.20 | +0.10 | |
| 2nd Mngd 3 Acc | 623.90 | 656.80 | +2.10 | |
| 2nd Mngd 4 Acc | 271.10 | 285.30 | +0.60 | |
| 2nd Deposit Acc | 320.70 | 337.60 | +0.30 | |
| 2nd Gilt Acc | 380.70 | 400.70 | -0.50 | |
| 2nd Amer Acc | 1028.00 | 1082.00 | -11.00 | |
| 2nd Intl Mny Acc | 251.50 | 264.70 | +1.10 | |
| 2nd Index Acc | 243.50 | 256.30 | +0.20 | |
| 2nd Global Acc | 180.30 | 189.70 | +1.10 | |
| 2nd Far East Acc | 229.60 | 241.90 | +5.10 | |
| 2nd Euro Acc | 225.20 | 236.00 | -0.60 | |
| 2nd Japan Acc | 110.50 | 116.30 | +5.50 | |
| 2nd Int Cr Bd Acc | 179.60 | 189.00 | -0.70 | |
| 2nd Cap Gth Acc | 174.20 | 183.40 | -0.20 | |
| ex-Laurentian | | | | |
| Property | 630.90 | 664.00 | -0.60 | |
| Managed | 542.90 | 571.50 | -1.90 | |
| American | 612.30 | 644.50 | -7.40 | |
| UK Equity F2 | 683.10 | 719.00 | +3.10 | |
| Japan | 122.00 | 128.40 | +6.40 | |
| Index-Lnkd | 222.00 | 234.20 | +0.20 | |
| High Yield | 1370.00 | 1443.00 | +6.00 | |
| Money | 455.50 | 479.40 | +0.40 | |
| International | 405.20 | 426.60 | +2.50 | |
| Perpetual Am [illegible] | 384.20 | 404.30 | +3.40 | |
| Growth Acc | 848.50 | 893.40 | -2.90 | |
| Gilt Edged | 539.40 | 567.60 | -0.80 | |
| European | 205.40 | 216.30 | -0.70 | ... |
| Far East | 121.60 | 127.90 | +1.60 | ... |

**LONDON LIFE**
Spectrum, Bond Street, Bristol, BS1 3AL
0117 984 7777

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Equity ‡ | 1338.30 | .. | -28.40 | ... |
| Fixed Interest ‡ | 557.80 | .. | -2.00 | ... |
| Property ‡ | 511.70 | .. | +1.60 | ... |
| Deposit ‡ | 336.30 | .. | +0.50 | ... |
| Mixed ‡ | 800.20 | .. | +11.70 | ... |
| Indexed Stock ‡ | 273.60 | .. | +0.10 | ... |
| International ‡ | 322.40 | .. | +3.20 | ... |
| Equity A ‡ | 309.20 | .. | +6.60 | ... |
| Fixed Int A ‡ | 246.40 | .. | -0.90 | ... |
| Property A ‡ | 224.00 | .. | +0.70 | ... |
| Deposit A ‡ | 196.90 | .. | +0.30 | ... |
| Mixed A ‡ | 261.90 | .. | +3.80 | ... |
| Index Stock A ‡ | 213.30 | .. | ... | ... |
| International A ‡ | 200.60 | .. | +2.00 | ... |
| Equity P ‡ | 1186.60 | .. | +25.90 | ... |
| Fixed Int P ‡ | 773.70 | .. | -2.70 | ... |
| Property P ‡ | 387.70 | .. | -0.60 | ... |
| Deposit P ‡ | 405.90 | .. | +0.20 | ... |
| Mixed P ‡ | 770.70 | .. | +11.60 | ... |
| Index Stock P ‡ | 315.40 | .. | +0.10 | ... |
| International P ‡ | 399.60 | .. | +4.70 | ... |

**LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSCE**
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inv Trust Cap ‡ | 625.40 | .. | -7.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 1203.80 | .. | -12.70 | ... |
| Property Cap ‡ | 139.20 | .. | +0.10 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 255.00 | .. | +0.30 | ... |
| Fxd Interest Cap ‡ | 217.70 | .. | -0.30 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 402.50 | .. | -0.20 | ... |
| Equity Cap ‡ | 419.00 | .. | -5.20 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 789.90 | .. | -9.10 | ... |
| Internal Cap ‡ | 239.30 | .. | -4.20 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 445.50 | .. | -7.30 | ... |
| Gtd Deposit Cap ‡ | 159.30 | .. | ... | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 292.30 | .. | +0.20 | 7.20 |
| Flexible Cap ‡ | 406.70 | .. | -4.60 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 763.20 | .. | -7.90 | ... |
| Moneymaker Fd ‡ | 580.60 | .. | -5.30 | ... |
| Capital Growth ‡ | 2960.10 | .. | -29.40 | ... |

**M & G**
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB
01245 266266

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amer Bond Acc | 657.20 | 691.20 | -7.40 | .. |
| Amer Rec Bond | 776.30 | 815.30 | -24.50 | ... |
| Am Smllr Cos Bd | 530.20 | 546.40 | -1.50 | ... |
| Australasia Bd | 292.00 | 307.30 | +7.30 | ... |
| Commodity Bond | 305.00 | 324.10 | -0.40 | .. |
| Deposit Bond Acc | 408.60 | 429.20 | +0.50 | ... |
| Equity Bond Acc | 2068.20 | 2171.70 | -9.20 | ... |
| European Bd Acc | 590.10 | 619.70 | | .. |
| Extra Yld Bd Acc | 1133.30 | 1190.10 | +11.10 | ... |
| Gilt Bond Acc | 565.60 | 594.00 | +0.40 | ... |
| Gold Bond Acc | 110.00 | 115.70 | +1.70 | ... |
| High Yield Bond | 461.30 | 484.50 | +5.60 | ... |
| Index-Lnk Gt Bd | 252.20 | 262.80 | +1.00 | ... |
| International Bd | 872.40 | 916.10 | +8.00 | ... |
| Japan Bond Acc | 149.90 | 157.30 | +6.40 | ... |
| Japan Sm Cos Ac | 150.40 | 160.50 | +1.50 | ... |
| Managed Bonds | 1146.40 | 1203.40 | +8.80 | ... |
| Prop Bond Acc | 580.20 | 609.40 | +4.30 | ... |
| Rec Bond Acc | 1087.30 | 1141.80 | -7.10 | ... |
| S East Asia Bd Acc | 226.00 | 237.40 | +7.50 | ... |

**MGM ASSURANCE**
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| UK Equity | 330.50 | 357.40 | +1.60 | ... |
| UK Equity Acc | 504.10 | 530.70 | +2.80 | ... |
| Special Sits | 135.10 | 142.20 | -0.70 | ... |
| Special Sits Acc | 212.40 | 223.60 | +1.10 | ... |
| North American | 271.70 | 286.00 | -2.50 | ... |
| N American Acc | 427.50 | 450.00 | -3.60 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 253.10 | 266.50 | +8.30 | ... |
| Pacific Basin Acc | 398.20 | 419.20 | +13.30 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 326.40 | 343.60 | -0.30 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Acc | 514.10 | 541.20 | -0.10 | ... |
| Property | 199.90 | 210.50 | +0.10 | ... |
| Property Acc | 314.80 | 331.40 | +0.20 | ... |
| Deposit | 156.70 | 165.00 | +0.10 | ... |
| Deposit Acc | 246.80 | 259.80 | +0.20 | ... |
| Managed | 330.10 | 347.50 | +2.00 | ... |
| Managed Acc | 478.40 | 503.60 | +3.00 | ... |

**MERCHANT INVESTORS**
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH
0117 9260 366

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Property | 474.50 | 511.60 | +0.30 | ... |
| UK Equity | 541.90 | 570.40 | -6.70 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 290.30 | 331.90 | +0.70 | ... |
| Interest Fund | 454.80 | 478.70 | +0.40 | ... |
| Managed Fd | 622.70 | 655.40 | -5.50 | ... |
| Intl Equity | 701.20 | 737.00 | -6.20 | ... |
| North American | 326.90 | 343.60 | -3.60 | ... |
| Far East | 333.30 | 350.90 | +1.00 | ... |
| Intl Currency | 272.50 | 286.60 | +0.20 | ... |

**NPI**
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH
0171 623 4200

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed | 652.50 | 686.80 | +1.30 | .. |
| UK Equity | 966.80 | 1017.60 | +4.70 | .. |
| Overseas Equity | 527.80 | 555.50 | +1.00 | .. |
| Americas | 606.10 | 638.00 | -5.00 | ... |
| Far East | 402.70 | 423.90 | +15.10 | ... |
| Property | 244.00 | 256.80 | +0.50 | .. |
| Fixed Interest | 493.00 | 519.00 | -1.20 | ... |
| Indexed Gilt | 286.30 | 301.30 | +0.30 | .. |
| Deposit | 247.00 | 260.00 | +0.20 | |

**NAT WEST LIFE ASSCE LTD**
PO Box 886, Trinity Quay, Bristol BS99 5LJ
0117 940 4040

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Growth Mgd Pens | 182.60 | 191.90 | +1.20 | .. |

**NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds**
PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP
01603 622280

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Fund | 2031.20 | 2138.10 | -7.30 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 4846.30 | 5101.30 | -37.10 | ... |
| Property Fd | 749.80 | 789.30 | +2.00 | ... |
| Fixed Int Fd | 777.10 | 817.90 | -3.90 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 401.50 | 422.60 | +0.40 | ... |
| Intl Fund | 412.10 | [illegible] | -0.30 | . |

**OLD MUTUAL**
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA
01256 768888

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Equity Fund Acc | 435.10 | 459.00 | +1.40 | ... |
| Fxd Interest Acc | 311.60 | 328.70 | -0.50 | ... |
| International Acc | 300.00 | 316.50 | -1.00 | ... |
| Managed Acc | 285.60 | 301.30 | ... | ... |
| Property Acc | 223.70 | 236.00 | +0.10 | ... |
| Money Acc | 173.70 | 183.30 | +0.20 | ... |
| Spec Mkt Acc | 233.70 | 246.60 | +1.20 | ... |
| Japan Equity Acc | 76.40 | 80.60 | +4.40 | ... |
| N Amer Acc | 251.00 | 264.80 | -2.70 | ... |
| Pacific Acc | 93.80 | 99.00 | +3.40 | ... |
| European Acc | 290.00 | 306.00 | -4.40 | ... |

**PEARL ASSURANCE**
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470470

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inv Prop Dist | 145.10 | 152.80 | +0.10 | ... |
| Prop Acc (Gross) | 375.10 | 394.90 | +0.40 | ... |
| Inv Equity | 1877.60 | 1976.50 | +10.90 | ... |
| Inv Managed | 1191.40 | 1254.20 | -3.50 | ... |
| Ret Managed | 1401.80 | 1475.60 | +6.00 | ... |

**PRUDENTIAL**
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH
01189 578354

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed | 467.90 | 487.30 | -10.60 | ... |

**PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS**
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP
0171 548 3273

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Fund | 1068.60 | 1124.90 | +7.90 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 2446.30 | 2575.10 | +12.00 | ... |
| Intl Fund | 755.10 | 794.90 | +7.50 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 707.60 | 744.90 | -0.90 | ... |
| Property Fund | 552.00 | 581.10 | +0.10 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 413.00 | 434.80 | +0.40 | ... |
| Pacific Basin | 242.60 | 255.40 | +12.30 | ... |
| N American Fd | 457.70 | 481.80 | -7.30 | ... |
| Euro Fund | 450.20 | 473.90 | -4.80 | ... |
| Balanced Fund | 210.90 | 222.10 | +1.60 | ... |
| Strategic Fund | 237.50 | 250.10 | +1.10 | ... |

**ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE**
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mult Grow (45) 1 | 1031.20 | .. | ... | ... |
| -do- Acc | 533.20 | 561.30 | ... | ... |
| Op Prop | 558.00 | 587.40 | -0.30 | ... |
| Op Equity | 1458.40 | 1535.20 | -10.40 | ... |
| Op High Yield | 766.50 | 806.80 | -0.30 | ... |
| Op Managed | 1070.40 | 1126.70 | -6.80 | ... |
| Op Deposit | 443.90 | 467.30 | +0.40 | ... |
| Japan Smlr | 112.70 | 118.60 | -1.00 | ... |
| Managed Gth | 359.20 | 378.10 | -5.80 | ... |
| British | 562.00 | 591.20 | -9.80 | ... |
| Global Bond | 126.40 | 133.00 | +0.70 | ... |
| Gold Share | 57.10 | 60.10 | -3.70 | ... |
| Japan | 253.60 | 266.90 | -13.60 | ... |
| UK Smlr Cos | 635.00 | 668.40 | +1.00 | ... |
| Mngd Growth | 626.10 | 659.00 | -10.60 | ... |

**ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE**
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS
0151 239 3000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Royal Life Unit Linked | | | | |
| Managed Fund | 520.90 | 548.30 | -3.40 | ... |

**SAVE & PROSPER**
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bal Inv Fund | 101.50 | 107.20 | -0.40 | 2.29 |
| Deposit Fund (2) | 431.00 | 455.60 | +0.40 | 6.81 |
| Gilt Fund | 665.10 | 704.90 | -1.50 | 7.36 |
| Global Equity Fd | 275.90 | 289.90 | -0.80 | ... |
| Property Fund (4e) | 134.10 | 142.00 | ... | 6.61 |

**SCOTTISH AMICABLE**
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow
0141 248 2323

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Equity | 876.00 | 922.20 | -8.70 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 459.60 | 483.80 | -0.80 | ... |
| Index-Linked | 229.80 | 249.70 | -0.60 | ... |
| International | 500.80 | 527.20 | -11.80 | ... |
| Property | 352.80 | 371.40 | +9.00 | ... |
| Cash | 259.20 | 272.90 | +0.20 | ... |
| Managed | 603.70 | 635.50 | -5.50 | ... |
| Cap Gteed Bd | 190.50 | 190.00 | -2.10 | ... |
| 9% Safeguard | 111.00 | .. | -0.70 | ... |
| 100% Safeguard | 103.00 | .. | -0.10 | ... |
| Wealth Pres Cap | 112.10 | .. | -1.40 | ... |
| Wealth Pres Inc | 90.20 | .. | -2.10 | ... |
| BonusBond L | 99.60 | ... | -1.00 | ... |

**SCOTTISH EQUITABLE**
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF
0131 556 9101

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cash | 206.27 | 217.13 | +0.21 | ... |
| Index-Linked | 202.90 | 213.60 | -0.20 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 232.70 | 244.90 | -0.30 | ... |
| Mixed | 354.70 | 373.40 | +2.90 | ... |
| UK Equity | 362.10 | 381.20 | +3.60 | ... |
| International | 326.00 | 343.20 | +3.80 | ... |
| American | 460.40 | 484.60 | -3.20 | ... |
| Japan | 184.40 | 194.70 | +9.20 | ... |
| European | 409.30 | 430.90 | -1.70 | ... |
| Pacific | 259.10 | 273.20 | +8.20 | ... |
| Technology | 577.90 | 608.30 | -3.20 | ... |
| Frgn Bd/Crrcy | 249.20 | 262.40 | -1.80 | ... |

**SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS**
19 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE
0131 225 2211

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Property | 261.80 | 275.70 | +0.50 | ... |
| UK Equity | 571.30 | 601.40 | +12.50 | ... |
| American | 399.80 | 421.00 | +3.40 | ... |
| Pacific | 267.80 | 282.00 | +9.80 | ... |
| European | 673.80 | 709.30 | -2.10 | ... |
| Global Mgd | 354.80 | 373.50 | +4.80 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 305.80 | 322.00 | -1.10 | ... |
| Index Linked | 244.30 | 257.30 | ... | ... |
| Deposit | 221.90 | 233.60 | +0.20 | ... |
| Managed | 392.50 | 413.20 | +6.00 | ... |
| Worldwide | 129.70 | 136.60 | +1.60 | ... |
| Pen Worldwide | 138.40 | 145.80 | +1.80 | ... |

**SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE**
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN
0141 248 6321

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Flex Fund (35) | 2330.00 | 2402.10 | -14.30 | ... |
| Safety Fund | 308.10 | 324.30 | +0.30 | ... |
| Growth Fund | 318.00 | 334.80 | +1.60 | ... |
| Opportunity Fd | 327.20 | 344.50 | -0.10 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 197.00 | 207.40 | +0.20 | ... |
| European Fund | 522.90 | 550.50 | -1.40 | ... |
| Gilts & Fxd Int | 266.40 | 280.50 | -1.50 | ... |
| Index-Linked Fd | 225.00 | 236.90 | +0.60 | ... |
| International Fd | 322.20 | 339.20 | +1.60 | ... |
| North American | 395.20 | 416.10 | -2.00 | ... |
| Property Fund | 139.20 | 146.60 | ... | ... |
| UK Equity | 379.30 | 399.30 | +3.20 | ... |
| UK Smaller | 326.20 | 343.40 | -0.50 | ... |

**SCOTTISH PROVIDENT**
6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA
0131 556 9181

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mixed | 369.30 | 388.80 | +1.20 | ... |
| Equity | 432.80 | 455.70 | +0.90 | ... |
| International | 327.20 | 344.50 | -1.70 | ... |
| Property | 268.50 | 282.70 | +0.40 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 319.80 | 336.60 | +1.10 | ... |
| Index Linked | 226.00 | 238.00 | +0.30 | ... |
| Cash | 209.30 | 220.40 | +0.20 | ... |
| Formerly Prolific | | | | |
| Bal Gwth Mngd | 1091.50 | 1161.20 | +1.30 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 381.80 | 402.40 | +0.20 | ... |
| Property Fund | 347.70 | 366.40 | +0.10 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 1092.90 | 1162.70 | -1.20 | ... |
| Fxd Interest Fund | 628.40 | 662.20 | -0.20 | ... |
| International | 463.10 | 492.70 | -3.10 | ... |
| High Income | 1084.60 | 1153.90 | -1.20 | ... |
| Far East | 424.70 | 451.90 | +15.40 | ... |
| North American | 895.40 | 952.60 | -11.30 | ... |
| Special Sits | 983.10 | 1045.90 | +4.40 | ... |
| Technology | 1057.70 | 1125.30 | -16.30 | ... |
| Extra Income Fd. | 587.40 | 624.90 | -0.80 | ... |
| Gilt Fund | 558.40 | 594.10 | +0.10 | ... |
| European | 219.30 | 233.40 | -2.10 | ... |
| Adventurous Mg | 261.20 | 275.30 | +0.50 | ... |
| Secure Mgd | 199.10 | 209.90 | -0.20 | ... |
| Equity Inc Dist | 155.80 | 164.20 | -0.50 | 4.11 |
| Managed Dist | 135.60 | 142.90 | -0.30 | 4.66 |
| Henderson Investment Bonds | | | | |
| UK Equity Fd | 452.90 | 481.90 | -5.80 | ... |
| North America | 541.60 | 576.20 | -9.70 | ... |
| Far East Fund | 409.40 | 435.60 | +3.60 | ... |
| Global Managed | 591.50 | 629.30 | -8.90 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 257.50 | 271.10 | -0.10 | ... |
| Prime Residential | 148.30 | 156.20 | ... | ... |
| European Fund | 390.90 | 415.90 | -8.10 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 63.30 | 67.40 | -0.60 | ... |

**SCOTTISH WIDOWS**
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU
0131 655 6000

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inv Pol 1 | 1413.10 | 1413.10 | +4.90 | ... |
| Inv Pol 2 | 1274.20 | 1341.40 | +4.60 | ... |
| Inv Pol 3 | 1199.00 | 1262.20 | -4.30 | ... |
| Inv Cash | 359.50 | 378.50 | -0.40 | ... |
| Mixed Fund | 619.00 | 651.70 | +8.40 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 823.10 | 866.50 | -10.80 | ... |
| Property Fund | 305.00 | 321.10 | +0.10 | ... |
| International Fd | 570.90 | 601.00 | +4.80 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Fd | 486.70 | 512.50 | -0.60 | ... |
| Indexed Stock Fd | 245.30 | 258.30 | -0.10 | ... |
| Cash Fund | 260.70 | 274.50 | -0.30 | ... |

**SKANDIA LIFE**
Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX
01703 334411

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Acc | 525.70 | 553.30 | -0.40 | ... |
| Equity Acc | 712.80 | 749.50 | -15.00 | ... |
| International Acc | 381.30 | 401.30 | -7.00 | ... |
| Property | 261.60 | 275.30 | +0.30 | ... |

**STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO**
Standard Life House, 30 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH1 2DH 0131 225 2552

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cash | 305.00 | 321.10 | +0.30 | ... |
| Equity | 1612.60 | 1697.50 | -30.80 | ... |
| European | 222.10 | 233.80 | -1.20 | ... |
| Far East | 139.00 | 146.40 | +4.20 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 516.90 | 542.00 | -0.90 | ... |
| Index Linked | 261.80 | 275.60 | +0.30 | ... |
| International | 684.20 | 720.30 | +3.20 | ... |
| Managed | 969.60 | 1020.70 | +8.20 | ... |
| Nth American | 231.30 | 243.50 | -3.10 | ... |
| Property | 431.00 | 453.70 | +0.20 | ... |
| Pensions | | | | |
| Cash | 494.70 | 520.80 | +0.60 | ... |
| Equity | 2538.70 | 2672.40 | -50.10 | ... |
| European | 304.50 | 320.60 | -2.50 | ... |
| Far East | 104.90 | 110.50 | +4.40 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 756.40 | 796.30 | -1.20 | ... |
| Index Linked | 378.80 | 398.80 | +1.10 | ... |
| International | 1011.20 | 1085.50 | +5.00 | ... |
| Managed | 1467.90 | 1545.20 | +16.70 | ... |
| Nth American | 322.70 | 339.70 | -5.20 | ... |
| Property | 653.90 | 688.40 | -3.70 | ... |
| Stock Exchange | 324.80 | 341.90 | +4.40 | ... |

**SUN ALLIANCE**
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex
01403 232323

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Fund | 986.20 | 1038.10 | -11.10 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 1400.70 | 1474.40 | -10.10 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Fd | 533.20 | 561.30 | -0.30 | ... |
| Index-Linked Fd | 404.30 | 425.60 | +2.00 | ... |
| Property Fund | 605.30 | 637.60 | +0.70 | ... |
| International Fd | 893.00 | 940.00 | -19.40 | ... |
| N American Fd | 475.50 | 500.50 | -6.30 | ... |
| Far East Fund | 186.00 | 195.80 | +1.40 | ... |
| Deposit Fund | 342.90 | 360.90 | +0.30 | ... |
| Intnl Bd ‡ | 5119.20 | ... | -980.00 | ... |
| Worldwide Bond | 172.50 | 181.60 | +0.30 | ... |
| European | 278.30 | 292.90 | -8.60 | ... |
| Phoenix Assurance | | | | |
| Wealth Assured | 999.30 | 1051.90 | -11.10 | ... |
| Ebor Phoenix Eq | 685.00 | 732.60 | ... | ... |
| Property Growth | | | | |
| Property Fund ‡ | 712.40 | ... | +0.80 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 657.10 | ... | +0.70 | ... |
| Agricultural Fd ‡ | 944.50 | ... | +1.00 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 898.10 | ... | +0.90 | ... |
| Abbey Nat Fd ‡ | 517.00 | ... | +0.70 | ... |
| Abbey Nat Acc ‡ | 540.40 | ... | +0.60 | ... |
| Investment Fd ‡ | 531.20 | ... | -5.60 | ... |
| Investment (A) ‡ | 507.40 | ... | -5.40 | ... |
| Equity ‡ | 2069.30 | ... | -14.00 | ... |
| Equity Acc ‡ | 1966.70 | ... | -13.40 | ... |
| Money Fund ‡ | 554.70 | ... | +0.40 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 526.50 | ... | +0.40 | ... |
| Actuarial Fd ‡ | 869.60 | ... | -9.30 | ... |
| Gilt-Edged Fd ‡ | 502.60 | ... | -0.20 | ... |
| -do- Acc ‡ | 502.60 | ... | -0.20 | ... |
| Retire Annuity ‡ | 1481.20 | ... | +1.70 | . |
| Immed Annuity ‡ | 301.00 | ... | ... | ... |
| Bldg Soc Life ‡ | 258.90 | ... | +0.30 | . |

**SUN LIFE OF CANADA**
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ
Dealing: 01256 841414

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Growth Acc ‡ | 2179.30 | ... | -41.40 | ... |
| Managed Acc ‡ | 1191.60 | ... | +13.40 | ... |
| Equity Account ‡ | 1987.90 | ... | -31.70 | ... |
| Mngd Fund Acc | 539.60 | 568.00 | +6.30 | ... |
| Equity Fund Acc | 820.00 | 863.20 | -14.20 | ... |
| Prop Fund Acc | 328.20 | 345.50 | +0.20 | ... |
| Fixed Int Fd Acc | 415.10 | 437.00 | -6.50 | ... |
| Money Fund Acc | 250.20 | 263.40 | +0.30 | ... |
| Indx-Lnk Scs Ac | 251.00 | 264.20 | | |
| Pers Pens Acct ‡ | 2068.90 | ... | -29.50 | ... |
| Pens Mngd Acct | 1240.60 | 1305.90 | -14.40 | ... |
| Pens Guarantee | 324.10 | 341.10 | +1.10 | ... |
| Pens Equity | 529.80 | 557.70 | -3.00 | ... |
| Pens Property | 379.90 | 399.90 | +1.20 | ... |
| Pens Fixed Int | 415.00 | 436.80 | -8.80 | ... |
| Pens Intl | 287.10 | 302.30 | -11.60 | ... |
| Pens Money | 279.10 | 293.80 | +0.70 | ... |
| Pens Indx-Lnkd | 250.60 | 263.80 | +0.40 | . |

**SUN LIFE UNIT**
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL
0117 9426911

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Acc | 1179.60 | 1241.70 | -8.40 | ... |
| Property Acc | 478.60 | 503.80 | -1.70 | ... |
| Equity Acc | 2191.70 | 2307.10 | -15.80 | ... |
| Fixed Int Acc | 530.20 | 558.20 | -0.70 | ... |
| Cash Acc | 354.10 | 372.80 | +0.30 | ... |
| Amer Equity Acc | 622.00 | 654.80 | -4.90 | ... |
| Japan Acc | 181.60 | 191.20 | -1.30 | ... |
| Pacific Acc | 246.80 | 259.80 | -0.40 | ... |
| Far Eastern Acc | 560.30 | 589.80 | -3.00 | ... |
| International Acc | 653.50 | 687.90 | -6.90 | ... |
| Distribution Fund | 345.00 | 363.20 | ... | 5.34 |
| European | 273.50 | 287.90 | -3.40 | ... |
| Defrd Dist | 236.10 | 248.60 | -0.40 | ... |

**TSB LIFE LTD**
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants, SP10 1RE
01264 345678

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Fund | 384.60 | 404.90 | +1.40 | ... |
| Property Fund | 247.90 | 261.00 | +0.20 | ... |
| Fixed Interest Fd | 281.80 | 296.70 | -0.70 | ... |
| Money Fund | 228.20 | 240.30 | +0.20 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 518.90 | 546.30 | +2.00 | ... |

**WINDSOR LIFE**
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire
01952 292929

| | Bid | Offer | Wkly +/- | Yld % |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Managed Bond | 951.90 | 1002.00 | +5.90 | ... |
| Money Fund | 361.00 | 380.00 | +1.50 | ... |
| Equity Fund | 930.10 | 979.00 | +1.20 | ... |
| Fixed Interest | 359.60 | 378.50 | -0.30 | ... |
| Property Fund | 448.40 | 472.00 | +2.40 | ... |
| Gresham Framlington | | | | |
| American & Gnrl | 795.00 | 836.80 | -20.30 | ... |
| Income | 1073.80 | 1130.30 | -8.10 | ... |
| International Gth | 749.50 | 788.90 | -4.10 | ... |
| Capital Fund | 826.50 | 869.90 | -1.30 | ... |
| Recovery Fund | 549.90 | 578.80 | -5.50 | ... |
| Japan & General | 176.40 | 185.60 | -0.80 | ... |
| Formerly AEtna | | | | |
| Life Funds | | | | |
| Squirrel | 20.55 | 21.63 | -0.08 | .. |
| Bear | 27.82 | 29.28 | -0.07 | ... |
| Owl | 30.34 | 31.93 | -0.03 | ... |
| Bull | 24.34 | 25.62 | +0.15 | ... |
| Stag | 29.29 | [illegible] | +0.37 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 23.73 | 24.97 | -0.04 | ... |
| Deposit | 17.71 | 18.64 | +0.00 | ... |
| Pensions | | | | |
| Squirrel | 29.09 | 30.62 | -0.14 | ... |
| Bear | 41.58 | 43.76 | -0.18 | ... |
| Owl | 44.33 | 46.66 | -0.07 | ... |
| Bull | 33.43 | 35.18 | -0.05 | ... |
| Stag | 31.54 | 33.20 | -0.11 | ... |
| Gilt Edged | 32.05 | 33.73 | -0.04 | ... |
| Deposit | 23.86 | 25.11 | -0.11 | ... |
| Pre 1982 Series | | | | |
| 3-Way Fund ‡ | | 807.00 | -4.77 | .. |
| 1982 Series | | | | |
| UK Equity | 516.48 | 543.66 | -0.65 | ... |
| N Amer Equity | 427.59 | 450.09 | -0.65 | ... |
| Far East Equity | 283.70 | 298.63 | +10.90 | ... |
| Fixed | 370.73 | 390.21 | -0.39 | .. |
| Cash Deposit | 233.00 | 245.26 | +0.93 | ... |
| Property | 191.08 | 201.13 | -1.01 | ... |
| Special Opp | 450.87 | 474.59 | +7.16 | ... |
| Managed | 423.48 | 445.76 | +2.62 | ... |
| Index-Linked Fd | 230.16 | 242.27 | -0.14 | ... |
| Formerly Crown | | | | |
| Life Mangd Acc | 791.30 | 832.90 | +4.80 | ... |
| Life Fxd Int Acc | 475.20 | 500.20 | -0.50 | ... |
| Life Equity Acc | 1227.30 | 1291.80 | -1.50 | ... |
| Life Money Acc | 339.20 | 357.00 | -1.30 | ... |
| Life Inv Tst Acc | 1040.70 | 1095.40 | -6.40 | ... |
| Life Intl Acc | 532.60 | 560.60 | -13.00 | ... |
| Life High Inc Acc | 1199.30 | 1262.40 | -4.60 | ... |
| Life Property Acc | 300.70 | 316.50 | +1.60 | ... |
| Brewin Equity | 947.00 | 996.80 | -18.10 | ... |

9HN, telephone 0151-546 2000 Saturday, January 17 ...
Office

هكذا من الأجل

هكذا من الأصل



# WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

## One-sided coverage of Isa proposals

*From Mr D. G. Pearson*

Sir, Your continuing correspondence on the subject of the Government's Isa proposals (December 20 to January 10) appears to be totally one-sided. Most people, it seems, are labouring under misunderstandings verging on paranoia. May I make one or two comments to redress the balance?

1. The Government is not taking away any benefits which have already been earned. It is only changing future benefits. Anyone who has £100,000 saved today, together with all interest, dividends, tax refunds, etc, will still have £100,000.

2. A change in future taxation is neither a betrayal of trust nor retrospective legislation. Would those who claim this really prefer to pay the investment income surcharge of 30 years ago?

3. It is wrong to imply that people were misled into these schemes because they believed they would continue forever. What would they have done differently had they known they had a limited life? Stuffed the money under the mattress?

4. Tessas were only issued for five years. Though a second issue was allowed, there was never any commitment to extend them beyond this period. All existing Tessas are to be allowed to run to maturity.

5. The benefits of Peps to the average taxpayer are largely in the eyes of the advertising copywriter. The only change most Pep holders will see is that they start paying tax rather than management charges, which are all but equal anyway. I know of at least one case where they will actually be better off.

6. It is senseless to bleat about the poor pensioners. Those that are poor pay little or no tax and benefit not at all from tax-free schemes. Tessas, and particularly Peps, are of most benefit to higher-rate taxpayers — the well-off.

My fear is that the Isas will repeat the mistakes of previous schemes in being complex and difficult to administer. High management charges will, once again, make the financial services industry the only real beneficiaries. Personally, I would rather pay tax which funds hospitals and schools, than management charges, which fund yuppies' Porsches.

If, on the other hand, the Government can come up with a simpler scheme which targets the benefits more accurately to the small investor and the taxpayer, then they will have my full support.

Yours faithfully,
D. PEARSON,
Moravka,
Beech Grove, Amersham,
Buckinghamshire.

## Real threat to charities will come from abolition of ACT

*From Mr Michael Bond*

Sir, Your correspondent, Maurice Fitzpatrick ("Basic-rate taxpayers and gifts to charity", Weekend Money Letters, January 10), is worrying about a problem which does not exist as the tax rate paid by a donor is immaterial.

The Inland Revenue is only concerned that the amount of tax paid by the donor is sufficient to cover the tax recoverable under the covenant. I found this out when I had a year in which I was due nearly 100 per cent tax refund but part had to be withheld to cover existing covenants. None of my tax was at standard rate.

The real threat to charities comes from the Chancellor's intention to make tax paid on dividends non-refundable to the taxpayer by the abolition of advance corporation tax which those with memories longer than that of the average politician will recall is actually the deduction of tax at source from the shareholders' share of the profits of the company. As my taxable sources of income are solely from investment it seems likely that all my covenants will have to be cancelled or I will have to pay an additional sum to the Inland Revenue to cover the recoverable tax due to the charity.

Bit of a mess really.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BOND,
119 High Street,
Chesterton,
Cambridge.

## The Foreign Office still discriminates


BBC

Would Harriet Smith, played by Pauline Collins, in *The Ambassador*, Sundays on BBC1, stand for such treatment?

*From Mrs Aileen Ray*

Sir, I read with interest your article about women losing their entitlement to pensions on marriage (Wedding "vow" left women in the lurch, January 10).

May I correct one of your dates. You say that women in the Civil Service lost their entitlement upon marriage until 1946. I was working for the Commonwealth Relations Office in 1962 when I married and was forced to resign my pensionable employment and become "permanently disestablished" as were all the other young women in my position. At the age of 21 the loss of pension rights frankly did not seem very important though I did think it unfair that the payments already made were not returned to me. Women only became entitled to the marriage gratuity referred to if they had completed six years' service before the wedding. This rule remained in force until the late 1960s.

That this should have been the situation in 1962 is bad enough, but even today the spouse (and the following applies equally to male as well as female spouses) of a serving member of HM Diplomatic Service employed locally in one of our embassies overseas would be paid the local rate for the job *less* the amount considered to be the equivalent of tax and NI due. Thus spouses working for our embassies overseas earn less than their locally employed colleagues doing the same job and working in the same conditions. Out of this "abated" salary those spouses hoping to entitle themselves to a state pension must pay voluntary Class 3 NI contributions.

There would be an argument for abating such salaries by an amount equating to the local tax due but there is no justification for taking away the NI element. Despite the best efforts of those affected to get this situation changed to the extent that UK national insurance would be paid by the embassy on their behalf, the answer has always been a very firm "no". This is an anomaly that I hope will soon be corrected. Spouses of Foreign Office staff are disadvantaged enough by breaking their service in their own chosen careers and thus having irregular contributions to their own company pension schemes.

Yours faithfully,
AILEEN RAY,
20 Park Road,
Haywoods Heath, West Sussex.

## Some charitable advice on wills

*From Mr Michael Roos*

Sir, Your pages regularly set out details of the net value of the estates in recent wills. I am uncertain as to the reason for this. I accept that it is publicly available information, but apart from satisfying a natural inquisitiveness in your readers, it seems to be an unnecessary public disclosure of personal family details, except perhaps where large bequests are made to charitable causes, which may prompt the living to consider doing the same.

Having said that, as one who is retired and has had no professional interest in the drafting of wills, or the effectiveness or otherwise of the management of estates prior to death, I am bound to ask whether many of the deceased whose details you quote have sought adequate advice in two respects. Firstly, the regular appearance of estates with a net residue in millions makes me wonder whether these estates have been placed in tax-efficient form, for example by trusts. Secondly, I am often astonished at the very small figures which the deceased has bequeathed to charities.

In a recent example, where the net estate was of the order of £2 million, the will apparently only included a single specific charitable bequest of £500. This suggests that whoever guided the testator, probably many years ago, neglected to suggest that this specific charitable bequest, even if intended to be small, might be expressed in some way as a percentage of the net estate so that, on death, the figure has more realistically kept pace with inflation, and probably more truly satisfied the intentions of the testator at the time the will was executed.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ROOS,
Hawthorn Cottage,
Bumbles Green Lane,
Nazeing,
Essex.

Letters or information for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. Letters should include a daytime telephone number.

*The Times* regrets it cannot always give individual replies or advice and asks that original documents are not sent in.

## THE WEEK IN MONEY

ANDREW LONGHURST is to leave his job as chairman of Cheltenham & Gloucester as well as his position as director of consumer finance at Lloyds TSB, in April. Mr Longhurst joined Lloyds in 1995 when the bank paid £1.8 billion for the building society he helped to transform into one of Britain's leading players in the mortgage market.

☐ On Wednesday, the Government urged companies to curb wage increases after an unexpected jump in average earnings figures revived fears of an interest rise next month.

The annual growth in average earnings increased from a figure of 4.5 per cent in October to 4.75 per cent in November, with analysts predicting it could accelerate above 5 per cent.

☐ House prices are almost back to the peak of the spring and early summer of 1989, according to a report by the Halifax. Prices rose by 1.1 per cent during the last three months of 1997, similar to the rise in the previous quarter. During 1997, house prices in the UK rose 6.3 per cent, up from 4.5 per cent in 1996. They are now just 0.3 per cent below the peak seen in the second quarter of 1989.

☐ A Japanese Government report issued on Tuesday said that the nation's economy was worsening and offered no prospect for an early improvement. The Economic Planning Agency said that the poor economic outlook was deterring consumer spending and capital outlays by companies and banks were increasingly reluctant to lend.

☐ Peregrine Investments, the largest independent securities house in Hong Kong, was mobbed on Monday after the group was placed in liquidation. Investors laid seige to Peregrine's offices demanding to transfer their portfolios. The collapse came after talks with bankers last weekend failed to find fresh funding to replace the $200 million (£123 million) that was due to be injected into the firm by Zurich Group.


Your Life Assurance *can* be cheaper

Policy Choice Direct

*the financial people who let you choose*

*Our Unique Service is FREE*

- Our FREE GUIDE gives you the facts
- Our FREE listings let you compare the rates of the top companies
- We arrange your policy
- We refund your first two months premium

0500 813913

Not all insurance policies and investments are suitable for everyone so if you have any doubt about suitability seek expert advice. We do not give financial advice.

Policy Choice Direct PLC is an appointed representative of Pier Financial which is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for investment business. www.policychoice.co.uk

The UK Index-Tracking PEP

STOP!

paying more than 0.5% annual management charges on your PEP

CALL 0500 11 66 22 NOW

CALL FREE: 8am to 8pm WEEKDAYS and 9am to 5pm WEEKENDS
PLEASE QUOTE REF: C4DL04

Past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance. Past investment tax credits will no longer be able to be reclaimed by PEPs investing in equity based unit trusts. Both capital and income values may go down as well as up and you may not get back the amount invested. Full written details are available on request. The Government published a consultation document in December 1997 on proposals for Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs) to be launched in April 1999. The terms and limits for converting an existing PEP into an ISA are being considered as part of the consultation. Legal & General (Direct) Limited. Registered in England No. 2743991. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP. Representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and IMRO for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name. For your protection and to enable us to deal with any queries that may arise, calls will usually be recorded and randomly monitored.

ACT NOW!

Legal & General

PERSONAL PENSIONS

Do you need a pension plan that's ready for life's unexpected turns?

No matter how carefully you plan, life has a habit of presenting us all with unexpected twists and turns. Early retirement; a change of career; children. All these can change your circumstances, so you need a pension plan which is flexible enough to let you cope with any changes - without penalty!

That is why you should consider an Equitable Pension Plan, which:

- **Lets you vary contributions - without penalty.**
- **Lets you retire earlier than planned - without penalty.**
- **Provides a full return of fund in the event of death before retirement.**

The Equitable Life does not pay commission to third parties for the introduction of new business. So, if you'd like to know more, call us direct on (0990) 38 48 58 or send off the coupon below for further information by post and by telephone.

www.equitable.co.uk

For your security your telephone call may be recorded
Information/advice will only be given on Equitable group products
Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority
THE EQUITABLE LIFE, FREEPOST, WALTON STREET, AYLESBURY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE HP21 7BR

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST, Walton Street, AYLESBURY, Bucks HP21 7BR
I would welcome details on The Equitable's pension plans. I am self employed ☐ I am an employee not in a company pension scheme ☐ TIMPENA
NAME (Mr Mrs Miss) _____
ADDRESS _____
Tel: (Office) _____
Tel: (Home) _____
Date of Birth _____
Postcode _____
We guarantee that no company outside The Equitable and its subsidiaries will receive these details. If however, you would prefer to receive no further solicitation from us, please tick this box ☐

Founded 1762

The Equitable Life
You profit from our principles

DIRECT LINE RATES

| SAVINGS RATES | |
|---|---|
| Direct Line Instant Access Account | UP TO 7.1% GROSS* |

| MORTGAGE RATE | |
|---|---|
| Direct Line Standard Variable Mortgage Rate | |
| VARIABLE RATE | 7.94% |

| PERSONAL LOAN RATES | |
|---|---|
| Direct Line Personal Loans | |
| AMOUNT OF LOAN | |
| £3,000 | |
| £6,000 | |
| £10,000 | |

All rates correct at 12th January 1998.

0181 667 1121 SAVINGS
0181 649 9099 MORTGAGES
0181 680 9966 PERSONAL LOANS

DIRECT LINE FINANCIAL SERVICES
www.directline.co.uk

*Source: Direct Line Financial Services. For further information about the Direct Line products listed above, please phone the appropriate number quoting ref. TTBB39*

Mortgage and savings provided by Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 258 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5NH. For savings, deposits and withdrawals via your bank account – allow 3 working days. *The gross rate is the rate paid without deduction of income tax and is based on annual payment of interest. Full terms and conditions of the account are available on request. Direct Line in the form of a first Legal Charge/Standard Security over the property will be required. Direct Line mortgages from £20,000 to £500,000 are available for up to 90% of the property valuation or purchase price, whichever is the lower. Written quotations available on request. Subject to status. All rates quoted above are variable.

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

For your added security telephone calls may be recorded and randomly monitored. Direct Line and the red telephone on wheels are trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc and used with its permission.

MORTGAGE RATE FIXED AT 6.55% (6.9% APR) UNTIL APRIL 2003.

With rates rising, now is the perfect time to know exactly what you will be paying until 1st April 2003.

Some things won't be changing, like the Woolwich Fixed Rate Mortgage. Fixed at 6.55% (6.9% APR) until 1st April 2003.

If you are an existing customer, or a new mortgage customer, it's available up to 95% loan to value.

Simply talk to your mortgage adviser at your local Woolwich branch or call Woolwich Direct, at local rate, Monday to Friday 8.30am–9.00pm, Saturday 9.00am–3.00pm or Sunday 10.00am–2.00pm on **0645 75 75 75**, quoting the reference TD171. For your security, telephone conversations may be recorded.

http://www.woolwich.co.uk

WOOLWICH MORTGAGES

0645 75 75 75

Get much more with the Woolwich

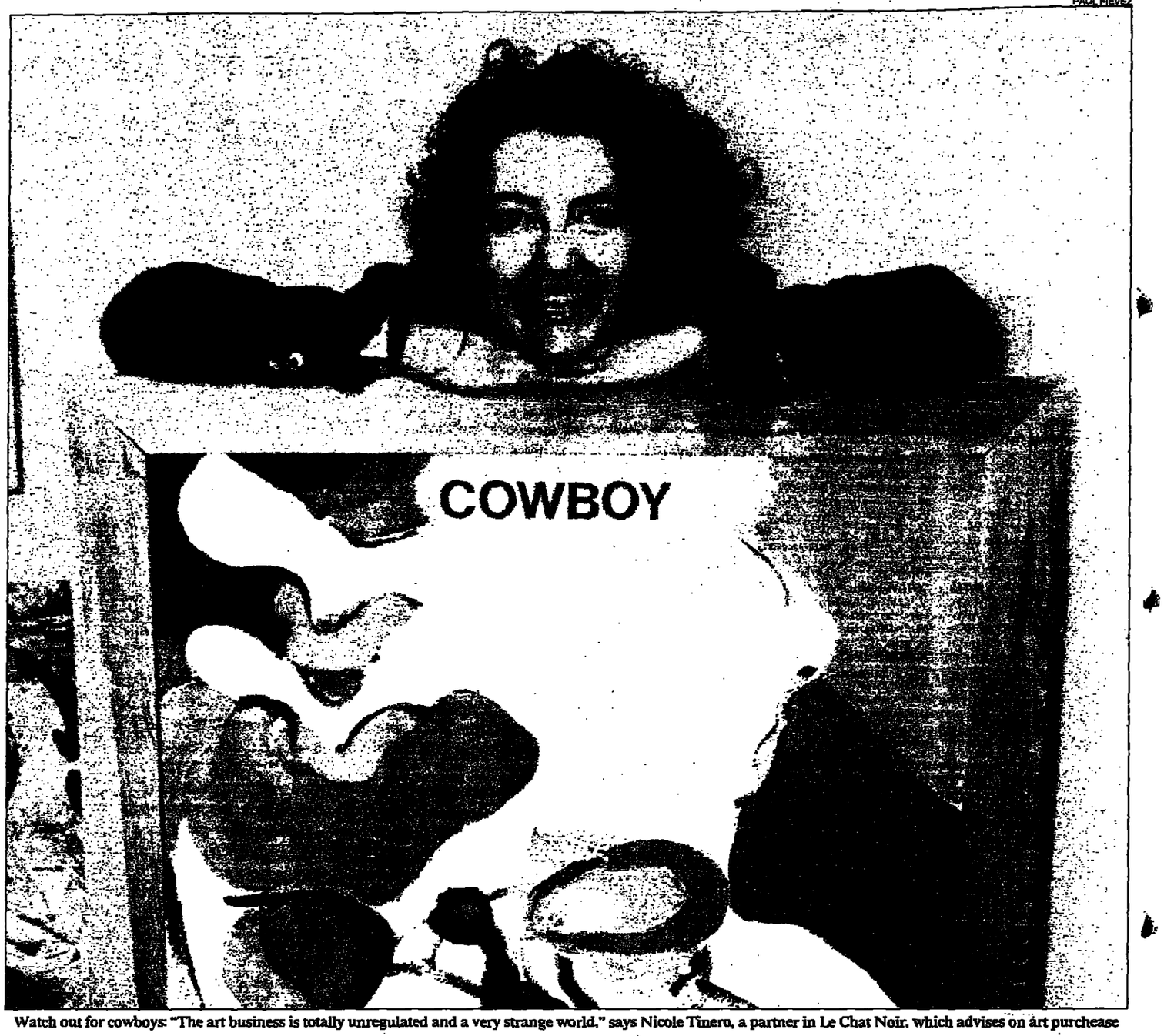
WOOLWICH

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT.

APRs variable and typical and calculated on the assumption that the mortgage rate applicable during the fixed rate period (which will run from the date interest is first charged in respect of the mortgage) will apply for the full term of the loan. However, the rate is variable and, from 1.4.2003, the Woolwich's prevailing standard variable mortgage rate will, in fact, apply. These terms apply only where a written offer of advance was issued on or after 13.01.98 and the mortgage completed by 31.07.98. Typical example: based on an endowment mortgage interest rate of 6.55% and a purchase price of £70,000, a couple taking out a mortgage of £65,000 (from which a Higher Percentage Advance Fee of £1081.25 will be deducted) over 25 years (where the amount of the advance is 93% of the Woolwich's valuation of the property) would pay interest of £354.80 per month gross (300 payments). Accrued interest £177.40. Valuer's fee £185. Application fee £295. Solicitor's mortgage charges £126. Deeds Administration Fee payable on redemption £85 and a single repayment of capital of £65,000. Total amount payable £172,268.40. 6.55%, 6.9% APR. The example assumes the mortgage starts in the middle of the month, a minimum guaranteed death benefit of £65,000 and a term of 25 years for the endowment policy. A first charge over your property will be required as security. For loans other than repayment loans, a suitable endowment policy, PEP or pension plan will also be required. A suitable level term assurance policy will also be required for PEP or pension plan mortgages. Where the mortgage exceeds the Woolwich's normal maximum percentage advance of 75% additional security will be required for which a Higher Percentage Advance Fee will be payable. If the mortgage is either redeemed (in full or in part) or transferred to another scheme before 1.4.2004, a fee equivalent to 6 months' gross interest at the rate payable at the time of repayment will be charged. Remortgages available up to 90% loan to value. All mortgages are subject to status, valuation and a minimum age of 18. A written quotation is available on request from any branch or from Woolwich plc, Dept LS, Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7RR. Woolwich plc represents only Woolwich Life and Woolwich Unit Trust Managers, which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority for life assurance, unit trust and pension business. Registered office: Watling Street, Bexleyheath, Kent DA6 7RR. Registered in England no. 3295689. Woolwich plc adheres to the principles of the Code of Mortgage Lending Practice. Copies of the code are available on request. 5FRM8

Money to spare on a unique commodity? **Jason Nissé** looks at how to buy and sell paintings

# Buy art for art's sake not to make money



PAUL RIEVES

Watch out for cowboys: "The art business is totally unregulated and a very strange world," says Nicole Tinero, a partner in Le Chat Noir, which advises on art purchase

At the end of this week anybody who has ever been interested in investing in contemporary art will have a unique opportunity to find out what they might be getting into. Art 98 at the Business Design Centre in North London's trendy Islington gathers together hundreds of art dealers, exhibiting more than 1,000 works of art, under one roof.

If you have a few hundred or a few thousands pounds to spare and have ever been tempted to dip your toes into the world of art collecting, it is an opportunity to see what is on offer, compare prices and see what you like. There is everything from Damien Hirsts at £50,000 to limited edition prints by quite well-known artists for as little as £150.

But whatever you do, leave your chequebook and credit card at home. "Buyers should be very careful before parting with their money," says James Rawlin, the modern British art expert at Phillips, the auctioneers. "Art 98 is a perfect example of how it can be made easy for a new buyer to see thousands of pieces by lots of artists. But there is no compulsion to buy on the day. In fact at Art 98 and the British Art Fair, the aim for most dealers is not to sell right there and then."

Purchasing art is not like investing in a unit trust or even buying a car. Apart from at fairs such as Art 98, there is very little opportunity to compare prices. Prices of art can be extremely volatile, as was shown by the sharp collapse in prices of impressionist art in the early-1990s, which followed the record-breaking sale of Van Gogh's *Sunflowers* to a Japanese investor. Closer to home a classic example of where buyers can be left out in the cold is shown by the fate of British artists of the 1960s.

Thirty years ago works by abstract painter Gwyther Irwin were more popular than those of his contemporary, David Hockney, and sold for around £1,500 each — the equivalent of £20,000 in today's prices. These days they change hands for less than £1,000.

Mr Rawlin says that he would never advise anyone to invest in art with the intention of making money. "Buy what you like," he says. "Never expect to make money as even the professionals get it wrong."

And, apart from shopping around by trudging up and down Bond Street and Cork Street or going to Art 98, there is no way of comparing prices.

One collector tells of finding two almost identical works by the same prewar artist at two West End galleries. The price difference was more than £1,000.

Another collector tells of attending a "sale" at Flowers East, the large gallery in Hackney, and finding a work by Peter Howson, the Glasgow painter, which had been exhibited at the Scottish Museum of Modern Art, reduced to less than half its original price.

"The art business is totally unregulated and a very strange world," says Nicole Tinero, a partner in Le Chat Noir, who advises potential buyers on art purchases.

If you are buying yourself, she suggests you read up heavily on the artist, looking in publications such as *The Art Newspaper* and obtaining catalogues from the auctioneers, and to not be afraid to haggle with the dealers. "At the end of the day, it is good to negotiate. A lay person can probably get 120 per cent off the price of a work." The other issues to bear in mind is, if you buy a new work, you will have to pay VAT at 17½ per cent whereas, if the work has been sold before, there is no VAT to pay.

However, the image of dealers being upper class smoothies desperate to rip off anyone entering thier galleries is not entirely accurate. "No dealer is going to intentionally mislead or sell at a wrong value; they want repeat business," says Robin Vousden, a director of Anthony D'Offay, one of London's leading contemporary art dealers. "Contemporary art collectors are rare, and if you find one prepared to spend money on art you treat him like gold dust."

Of course you could avoid the dealers entirely by buying at auction. There are four large London houses that have regular art acutions — Sotheby's, Christie's, Bonhams and Phillips. They sell on fixed commissions — typically 10 per cent on works of less than £60,000, a lower rate on more expensive works. The problem is that there is little opportunity to view the work and you have to buy, making snap decisions, so it is a risky process for a new collector.

So, you have bought your work of art and hung it on your wall. But a few years later you move house, or redocorate, or your taste changes. So you want to sell. How do you go about it?

The most obvious route is to go back to the dealer who sold the work in the first place, as he or she is probably an expert in the artist concerned. Otherwise you could sell at auction, which is a little bit more risky, though the auction house will be able to advise on a minimum price and what you should expect to get.

The best time to sell is usually after the artist has had an exhibition or has had some media attention. But beware of selling too soon. "Unlike a stock or share, you cannot buy and sell short term," says James Rawlin. "If you sell less than five years after buying a piece, people think there is something wrong with it. You should think about holding on to a work for ten or 15 years."


ONLY 2% INITIAL CHARGE

ONLY 0.3% ANNUAL MANAGEMENT CHARGE

NO TRANSFER CHARGES

The Tracker PEP with no hidden charges

ROYAL & SUNALLIANCE

Instead of charging you up to 1% every year like some PEPs, the Rose Tracker offers one of the lowest annual management fees in the tracker PEP market at just 0.3%.

It's the latest offer from Invest On-line, the direct investment arm of one of the UK's leading insurance companies, Royal & SunAlliance.

Unlike some index trackers, the Rose Tracker PEP spreads your investment over the whole FTSE All-Share Index, not just the top 100 companies, so reducing the risks.

You can start investing in the Rose Tracker PEP either as a regular saver from as little as £50 each month or with a lump sum of £1000 or more.

Even if you already have a PEP it is very easy to transfer your funds to the Rose Tracker PEP.

Call free, now on 0500 100 333 or clip the coupon below for more information. Our friendly and knowledgeable staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

TALK TO US ABOUT THE ROSE TRACKER PEP FREE ON

0500 100 333

7 DAYS A WEEK 8AM-10PM

FAX NO: 0118 934 8212 E MAIL: invest@rsaonline.co.uk

PLEASE QUOTE COUPON CODE BELOW

invest on-line

CODE: AAC Invest On-line, FREEPOST 3479, Reading, Berkshire RG10 9ZZ.

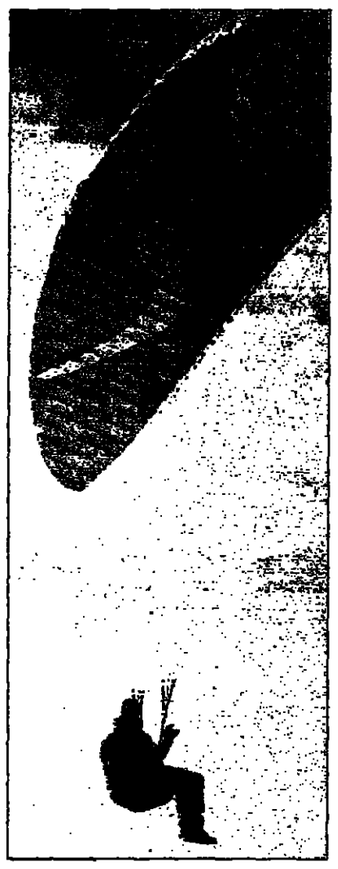
Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms..... Forename..... Surname.....

Address.....

.....Postcode..... Tel(daytime)..... (home)..... Date of birth...../...../.....


# The perils of baling out of your policy early

**Marianne Curphey** finds that surrender values are far from fair to savers who have ploughed their money into endowments



Savers who cash in an endowment policy two thirds of the way through its term might have been better off putting their cash into a bank or building society deposit account, *Weekend Money* has found.

Although with-profits policies can be competitive products when kept to maturity, many savers cash them in early when their circumstances change. When compared to some of the UK's biggest life insurers, a Halifax 90-Day notice account yielded the same or better rate than a with-profits policy surrendered ten years into a 15-year plan. Both forms of saving were beaten over the same period by a high-quality unit trust.

James Higgins, of Chamberlain de Broe, the independent financial adviser, said: "The penalties of early surrender are desperately unfair. Insurance companies know from their research that more than half of their clients cash in their plans early, and yet they keep on writing inflexible policies."

Any comparison needs to take into account the life cover which all with-profit policies provide. It is also important to emphasise that surrender values on endowment policies are not as generous as the maturity value would be. In addition, some firms specialising in buying and selling second-hand endowment polices offer a better price than the surrender value from an insurance company.

Nevertheless, the comparisons make interesting reading, particularly as the life insurers are currently reporting annual and maturity bonus rates on their policies. Those that have already declared bonuses this year forecast that there would be great emphasis on terminal (final) bonuses in the future, and that the annual bonuses were likely to fall. This led some commentators to question the basis on which with-profits policies are sold.

Research by *Weekend Money* has found that over the past ten years, the performance of unit trusts, and in some cases ordinary deposit accounts, has outflanked the surrender value of policies offered by some of the leading players in the life insurance sector.

According to Mike Wadsworth, a life insurance specialist with the actuary Watson Wyatt, even if a ten-year endowment plan is held to maturity it may not beat the return on a deposit account return by much. "On short-term plans the life offices have to invest heavily in fixed-interest stocks, such as bonds and gilts, in order to be sure they will meet the guaranteed sum assured," he said.

"There is not much left over for them to invest in equities. In addition, life offices' expenses are high. If a gilt yields 4.5 per cent, and expenses are 3 per cent, a life company has got to find an extra 3 per cent growth to beat the average building society. On a short-term basis you could do just as well by buying gilts and unit trusts yourself."

He believes that the size and financial strength of a life office is important, because it is likely to have a larger surplus which it can use to invest in equities, rather than simply play safe with gilts. For example, a £50-a-month regular savings plan with a popular unit trust in the UK equity growth sector with a good track record, like the Perpetual UK Growth fund, would have returned £14,948 (bid to bid price, all net income reinvested) over ten years. This represents a return of almost 150 per cent over the decade. According to Micropal, which tracks fund performance, a trust like the M&G UK Growth, ranked 39th in the performance league table of the same sector, would have produced a return of £11,968 over the same period.

It is difficult to make exact comparisons between unit trusts and with-profits endowment policies because the two have a different risk profile. With-profits, both traditional and unitised policies, smooth the stock market rises and falls to pay a relatively steady bonus to investors; unit trusts are subject to every whim of a volatile stock market.

That is why they are rarely used as a savings plan to pay off mortgages. In addition, with-profits policies often, but not always, produce a generous final bonus when the policy matures.

*Weekend Money* asked some of the biggest with-profits fund managers to come up with the value of a 15-year savings policy which had been running for ten years of the term. Our imaginary saver is a non-smoking male aged 30 next birthday, who is paying in premiums of £50 a month.

Standard Life, one of the biggest providers of life and pensions products and a mutual life insurer, quoted a surrender value of £8,687 on the policy. Equitable Life, a mutual with one of the lowest expense to premium income ratios, quoted a surrender value of £8,150 but said this was a projection based on a standard industry forecast of 7.5 per cent growth every year.

Scottish Mutual, which is owned by Abbey National, said that after ten years a unitised with-profits policy would have accumulated £8,010, based on a mortgage repayment plan and assuming 75 per cent life cover. Scottish Widows, quoting a conventional with-profits life policy, said the surrender value would be £8,726.

On a similar basis a £50-a-month savings premium paid into a Halifax 90-Day notice savings account over ten years would have produced £8,607 in cash (for a saver paying the basic rate of tax) at the end of the ten-year term.

Standard Life will be declaring its bonus rates on life and pensions policies on January 29, while Scottish Mutual's policyholders will have to wait until February for the same information. Scottish Widows will be declaring bonus rates early next month, while Legal & General will make the announcement on February 26, one day after the Prudential.

The generosity of actuaries who calculate the bonuses vary from one insurer to another. Contrary to what policyholders might expect, it is often the shareholder-owned companies that pay most, although over the long term and including the final bonus, mutuals often come out the best. Each year actuaries calculate the surplus in the with-profits life fund which can be distributed as bonuses. In most shareholder-owned companies, 90 per cent of that surplus goes to policyholders and the remainder to shareholders where it shows up on the profit figures of the balance sheet.

**Clare Stewart** on the mix of confidence and pessimism over the Far East

# Search for life among wreckage

The financial turbulence experienced in the Far East this week sent investors round the world diving for cover and pundits searching for different ways to describe the latest round of problems in once seemingly unassailable economies.

Eastern tigers lost out to stock market bears, while Asian flu took a firmer grip on markets worldwide, though some commentators were happier sticking to such old-fashioned terms as stock market crash.

While nerves steadied during the course of the week, few if any observers were prepared to call the bottom of the slide in share prices in the vulnerable markets. Instead analysts and fund managers are bracing themselves for more volatility ahead.

The sharp falls seen by stock markets on Monday came after a nervous weekend, and the anticipated collapse of Peregrine Investment Holdings, Hong Kong's largest investment bank.

Peregrine filed for liquidation on Monday, prompting alarm amongst investors in the former colony who rushed to sell. Against the background of a sharp rise in interest rates, the Hang Seng index fell back by almost 9 per cent to close at its lowest level since March 1995.

The London and New York stock markets were quick to react to Hong Kong's problem with the FTSE 100 falling nearly 150 points at its lowest point on Monday.

London prices are particularly vulnerable to Hong ng market trends, given · size of Far East exposed oups such as HSBC, Cable Wireless and Standard nartered amongst the FTSE 0 index.

While a firmer opening on /all Street helped to fuel a ally in London prices on Monday, the continuing volitility in the Far East has enewed concerns about the ffect on UK exporters as emand declines from counies being squeezed by ecoomic problems and evalued currencies.

Hong Kong was further uffeted later in the week on hispers, strongly denied, hat Sino Land, the property roup, was in financial diffilties, while news that chroders, the investment anking group, was cutting back its securities business in Asia cast a further shadow.

Hong Kong was not the only country under the spotlight last week. Indonesia signed a new agreement with the International Monetary Fund and pledged a greater commitment to economic reform, while holding high interest rates in order to support its currency, the rupiah.

The agreement provided some cheer but much concern remains about Indonesia's ability to deliver promises of economic reform. On top of this, concerns over the country's political stability under President Suharto add a further element of uncertainty.

Indonesia is South-East Asia's biggest market with a population of almost 200 million and worries about its economic and political stablity have spilled over into neigbouring Singapore whose banks have lent money to Indonesian companies.

Despite all the problems in the Far East, fund managers are sitting tight and are not issuing life jackets to private investors thinking of bailing out. "There is more pain to be endured in the short term," said Stuart Parks, Asia investment manager at Perpetual. "But there are positive signs in that some of the governments are starting to take IMF-prescribed medicine. They have to reform their economies and banking systems and make themselves more efficient in world terms."

Investors, said fund managers, are best advised to take a longer-term view, looking for recovery in the next three to five years not the next three to five months.

"We do think that value is emerging although it is difficult to make a case for buying on fundamentals," said John Ross, porfolio strategist for Fidelity Investments. It is a matter says Fidelity of spotting buying opportunities, particularly when sound companies are downrated in a generally bearish market.

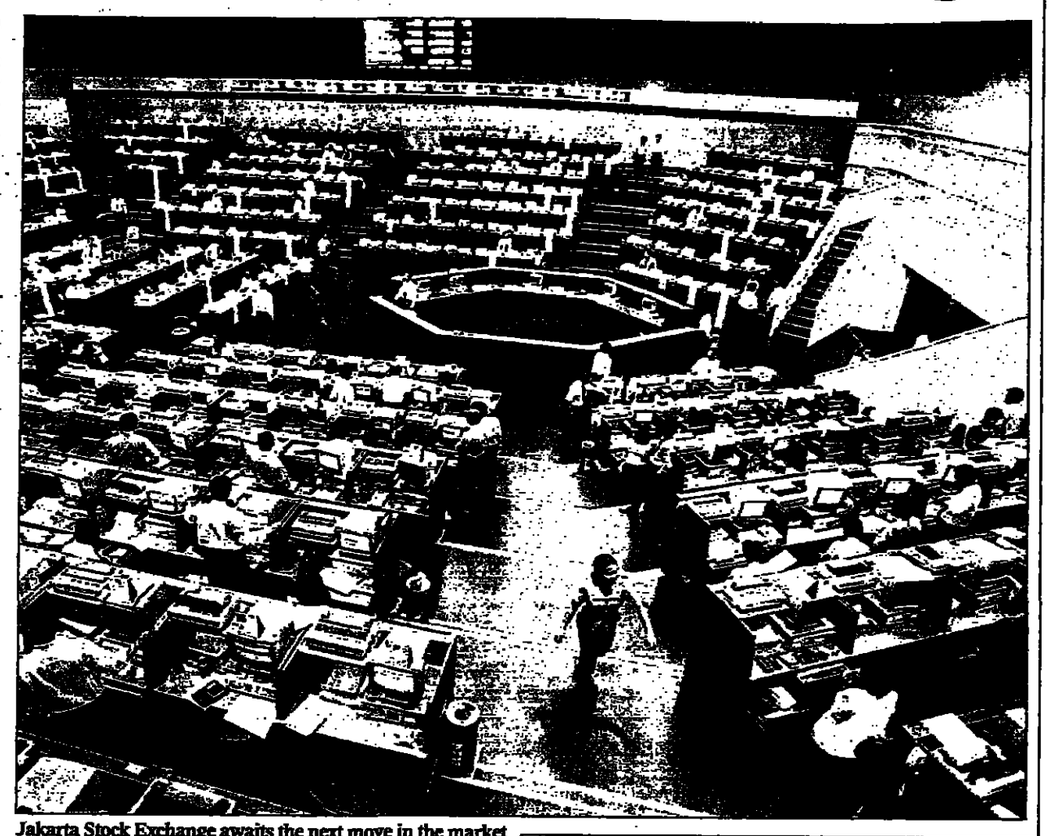
Despite the recent fluctuations, there are signs of improvement. Simon Nicholson, senior fund manager, Far East at Gartmore, takes encouragement from the recovery shown by certain of the currencies including the Indonesian rupiah and Korean won.

"Once currencies have stabilised and there is scope for interest rates to come down, an improvement will be seen. A rally is overdue," he said. The current problems are not, he added, "so much an economic crisis as an old-fashioned banking liquidity crisis", prompted by foreign banks cutting back investment in the Far East but finding countries unable to pay.

Despite his optimistic outlook for Far Eastern investments over the next three to five years, Mr Nicholson remains wary of financial and property sectors. In addition he is cautious about the attractions of Hong Kong, particularly while its currency remains pegged to the US dollar with high interest rates required in support.

Stuart Parks also highlights the "worrying side-effects of protecting the currency peg", given the impact of high interest rates on the Hong Kong property market and consumer spending.

Views differ as to the pattern and timing of recovery, but there is a more general expectation that once the corner has been turned there is plenty of room for improvement. "Because investor sentiment has been so negative, fund managers are sitting on a lot of cash. Any positive news will bring them back into the market," said John Ross at Fidelity Investments.



Jakarta Stock Exchange awaits the next move in the market

## Analysts and fund managers are braced for more volatility ahead


STANDARD LIFE BANK℠

You don't have to speculate to accumulate.

7·30% NO NOTICE REQUIRED

- Excellent tiered rates of interest.
- No notice required and no penalties.
- No minimum or maximum deposit.
- No limit on the number of withdrawals.

0345 55 56 57

Saving has never been simpler

PHONE LINES OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-9PM, SATURDAY 8AM-5PM

Terms and Conditions available on request. "Gross - the rate of interest paid without deduction of lower rate tax to eligible non-taxpayers. Rates may vary. Standard Life Bank Limited is a company registered in Scotland (number SC173685) Registered Office Standard Life House 30 Lothian Road Edinburgh EH1 2DH Tel (0345) 333 300. Standard Life Bank Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Standard Life Assurance Company and is a member of the Standard Life Group of companies. For your protection, telephone calls will be recorded. We may also monitor telephone calls to help us improve customer service. Standard Life Bank Limited is a member of the Deposit Protection Scheme established under the Banking Act 1987 (as amended). Payments under the Scheme are limited to 90% of a depositor's total deposits subject to a maximum payment to any one depositor of £18,000 (or ECU 20,000 if greater). Further details of the Scheme are available on request.



"We saved £124 a month* just by switching our mortgage. So could you!"



"Monthly mortgage savings AND a cashback!"

...and with: ☑ FREE valuation ☑ £400 cashback and ☑ £315 towards legal fees... switching your mortgage couldn't be easier!

This great offer from a leading Lender is available exclusively through Mortgage Intelligence - Britain's largest group of mortgage brokers, with 400 offices across the UK.

To contact your local mortgage broker, call FREE anytime on:

☎ 0500·10·10·33

· MORTGAGE · INTELLIGENCE

The UK's largest group of mortgage brokers.

TIM 17/1/124

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT



ENDOWMENT POLICIES WANTED

We Deliver Competitive Prices, Quick Results, and Quality Service

THE INSURANCE POLICY TRADING COMPANY LTD

22 CHURCH STREET : GODALMING : GU7 1EW

☎ 01483 427575 : Fax 01483 418866

Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority



BAILLIE GIFFORD

Profit from Monks

| | 5 years | 10 years |
|---|---|---|
| Monks | 88% | 349% |

The Monks Investment Trust PLC

Monks is an investment trust with an international portfolio of investments worth £664* million. The ability to diversify worldwide helps spread risk, while allowing assets to be moved to the most attractive areas. It is an approach that has worked.

The Monks Investment Trust PLC is managed by Baillie Gifford & Co., Scotland's largest independently owned investment firm. You pay no dealing charges when you invest through The Baillie Gifford Investment Trust Savings Scheme. Monks is also available through The Baillie Gifford Mixed PEP.

For further information please call us free on 0500 418008 or return the coupon below.

Please note that information about past performance is not necessarily a guide to future performance, and the price of shares may fall as well as rise. Investors may not get back the amount they invested and changes in currency exchange rates may cause the investment to fall or rise. The value of the current PEP tax reliefs will depend on your individual circumstances. In the July 1997 budget, it was announced that, as of April 6th 1999, the income tax rebate will no longer be reclaimable in a PEP and their other tax benefits may change with the planned introduction of an Individual Savings Account.

This advert has been issued and approved by Baillie Gifford Savings Management Ltd (BGSM). BGSM is the manager of The Baillie Gifford Investment Trust Savings Scheme and The Baillie Gifford Mixed PEP. BGSM is wholly owned by Baillie Gifford & Co., who are the managers and secretaries of The Monks Investment Trust PLC. BGSM and Baillie Gifford & Co are regulated by IMRO

*Source AITC Monthly Statistics 28.11.97. Total share price return, mid price to mid price with net income reinvested.

Name

Address

Postcode Daytime Telephone



FLIGHT

NEW EMERGING CURRENCY FUND

2% Launch Discount until 27 February '98

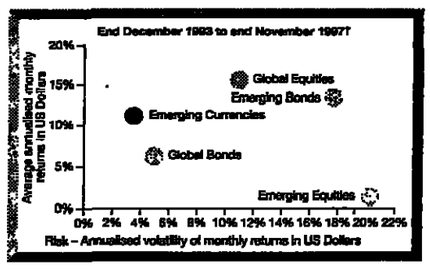
A new currency fund. A new approach to emerging markets.

Surprisingly, emerging currencies have delivered some of the best returns over recent years with remarkably little risk. Investors only hear about emerging currencies when there is a crisis – Mexico in 1994; South East Asia in 1997 – and assume that all emerging currencies behave in the same way. In fact, a basket of emerging currencies has exhibited significantly less downside risk than global equities and even global bonds.

The new Guinness Flight Emerging Currency Fund provides the opportunity for an attractive yield (estimated yield: 8%*) and capital growth from a diversified exposure to the currencies of Latin America, Central and Eastern Europe, Asia (excluding Japan) and Africa.

For more information call now, or complete and return the coupon below.

The lower risk approach to emerging markets.




GUINNESS FLIGHT

INTELLIGENT INVESTMENT

Call 0345 564 564 – quoting ref 3639 lines open 24 hrs

Guinness Flight Fund Managers (Guernsey) Limited, Guinness Flight House, PO Box 250, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 3QH, Channel Islands. Fax +44 (0)1481 712065. Internet: www.guinness-flight.com/emerging-currencies.html. *Please send me details on the new Guinness Flight Emerging Currency Fund.*

Title Initials Surname

Address

Postcode

*Estimated gross initial yield as at 30.12.97. †Sources: Citibank and various J.P. Morgan and MSCI indices. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Fluctuations in the value of the underlying securities and the income from them and changes in interest and exchange rates means that the value of this investment and the income arising from it may fall as well as rise and is not guaranteed. Investors should also be aware of the above average volatility associated with many developing markets. For your protection, telephone calls may be recorded. Issued by Guinness Flight Hambro Asset Management Limited, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority.

3639/98



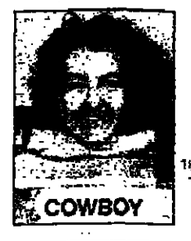
**EASTERN THREAT 52**

Graham Searjeant on why bonds look the best bet

# WEEKEND MONEY

**ART ATTACK 62**

Finding your way through a very unregulated market




**Patrick Collinson** on opportunities for individuals to invest in Web firms

# Catching the Net express

Private individuals will have their first chance to invest directly in the explosive growth of the Internet if a new trust gets the go-ahead next month.

More than five million Britons have gone on-line on the Internet, yet until now there have been no investment vehicles focused solely on the numerous fast-growing companies exploiting the Net.

This week Finsbury Asset Management, the investment trust specialist, revealed that it is considering launching a £7.5m-plus venture capital trust aimed at profiting from the Internet. However, even broad-based venture capital trusts such as the well-established 3i are relatively high risk and not for market newcomers.

Anthony Townsend, managing director, said the potential rewards could be extraordinary: "At the moment it's nearly impossible for the private individual to access the sector. There are huge numbers of businesses starting up on the Internet, enjoying rates of growth not seen anywhere else. In the best tradition of venture capital trusts, you only need to find one or two successes to offset the cost of several failures."

But Internet companies have also been spectacular investment flops. During 1995 they were the darlings of Wall Street, but since then their share prices have crashed back to earth. Netscape, producer of a ground-breaking Internet search engine, saw its share price jump 600 per cent in the first four months of its listing in 1995, but fell back sharply when Microsoft entered the market.

In the UK, Internet usage is believed to be doubling every year, although the anarchic nature of the Net means proper statistics are unavailable. The speed of growth of such UK companies as Demon and Metacrawler are already exciting business observers.

The Finsbury Trust will aim to raise a minimum of £7.5 million to invest in around 20 to 30 UK start-up companies on the Internet, nurturing their growth and taking the successful companies to a listing on the London Stock Exchange.

Mr Townsend says that if the trust goes ahead (it is still being test-marketed among brokers) it will be the company's first foray into venture capital trusts (VCTs).

VCTs offer full 40 per cent tax relief on investments up to £100,000, but are considered to be much more risky vehicles than unit trusts or investment trusts. Mr Townsend said: "The Net is ideal for sophisticated private investors. We could have a prospectus out by mid to late February."

■ *The Times* is the leading UK newspaper site on the Internet, with 1.25 million reader registrations. You can access the story above and all of today's other stories on http://www.the-times.co.uk

UNS PHOTOS



Encyclopaedia Britannica CD-Roms are growing in popularity; this week the company stopped door-to-door sales

## Direct Line moves into personal pensions

Direct Line, which already sells personal equity plans and life products by telephone, is launching its own personal pension next week.

The product, which has an initial charge plus an annual management fee amounting in total to 3 per cent, does not have exit or entry charges, or a bid-offer spread (the difference between the buying and selling price). Members of the scheme can increase, decrease or stop contributions without penalty, unlike pensions from many traditional life insurers. Investors can choose between two funds: a tracker that attempts to replicate the performance of the FTSE 100 index, and a cash fund based on building society and bank deposit rates. Policyholders will be encouraged to invest in the equity-based fund in the early years and switch to cash towards retirement in order to guard against any falls in the stock market. They are also free to switch between funds if they believe that the FTSE 100 index is about to fall.

However, Adrian Webb, a spokesman for Direct Line (0845 300 333), said the company would not advise people whenever the stock market looked volatile. "That is the sort of advice only a stockbroker would give," he said.

The minimum contribution is £75 a month gross, or £57.75 net and the minimum lump sum is £500 gross or £385 net. The minimum additional premium is £250. The plan will charge 2 per cent on the value of the monthly gross contribution or 1 per cent on the gross lump sum. A further charge of 1 per cent is made each year on the fund's value.

Mike Wadsworth, of Watson Wyatt, the actuary, said: "This is a much better product than many traditional plans, although the charges are quite high for a simple index-tracker. I would suggest people close to retirement would be better off switching into a fund linked to gilts, rather than cash."

MARIANNE CURPHEY

## No-interest loan has poor take-up

A home-loan facility aimed at Muslims who feel they ought to shun traditional mortgages has had a disappointing response since it was launched last May.

The Islamic Investment Banking Unit (IIBU), part of the United Bank of Kuwait, launched "Manzil" for British Muslims who want to adhere to the Islamic law that forbids the payment or receipt of interest.

A conventional mortgage involves borrowing money to buy a house or flat and then paying interest on the lump sum. Manzil, which means "home" or "dwelling of the soul" in Arabic, involves the IIBU buying the chosen property. It then sells it at a higher price to the Muslim client, who becomes the registered owner and pays fixed monthly instalments until the sum is repaid.

The technique, known as "Morabaha" is a common financing tool in Islamic banks. However, only about 30 people have completed on their home using Manzil.

Keith Leach, Islamic financial services manager at the IIBU, said there had been thousands of inquiries but admitted the take-up rate was "not tremendous". He said British Muslims are perhaps less familiar with Morabaha than those in the Middle East.

Clients may have been discouraged by the 0.75 per cent arrangement fee charged by the IIBU, or the fact that a Manzil borrower will not be eligible for Miras, the tax relief given by the UK Government on mortgage interest repayments.

The Manzil loan must also be paid back in 15 years, a shorter period than most conventional mortgages. Translated into conventional mortgage terms, the Manzil repayment rate would be about 0.5 to 0.75 per cent more than a home loan from a high street bank, Mr Leach said.

ADAM JONES

## Call for flexibility on retirement savings

The Government is being urged to set up a two-tier individual savings account that would encourage low-paid workers to save while ensuring higher earners also made provision for their retirement.

Charles Levett-Scrivener, a specialist with Towry Law, the accountant, believes that two separate schemes are needed because the two groups are so different.

He proposes a new individual savings account for the low paid, featuring a maximum £1,000 a year contribution and tax relief up-front of 10 per cent.

He said: "To people earning just £100 a week, putting £10 into a savings account would mean they had to forego some of life's luxuries. They need to be persuaded not to take 'jam today' but to think about the future".

The plan would be free of capital gains tax and income tax and would have a three-year "lock-in" with tapering penalties. It would be made unattractive to 40 per cent taxpayers by making them repay the tax relief.

He suggests that a second scheme, which he has dubbed the new personal savings plan, would build on the foundations of the personal equity plan. There would be a maximum £5,000 a year contribution, no lifetime limit, a 10 per cent tax reclaim on dividends, transfers in from existing Peps and Tessas and no extra tax for 40 per cent taxpayers to pay.

Interest from qualifying bonds would be tax-free and interest from deposits would be taxed at 20 per cent.

The Government is currently asking for responses to its proposed Isa lifetime limit of £50,000 and a £5,000-a-year contribution limit.

*Towry Law is offering Weekend Money readers a booklet on the Isa proposals. Telephone 0345 868244.*

MARIANNE CURPHEY

## New birth boosts saving rates

The savings war has reached a new intensity as the Halifax and Safeway launch direct savings accounts offering rates above 7 per cent.

The move follows the birth of Standard Life Bank earlier this month which shook up the £500 billion savings market. Halifax Direct will pay an interest of up to 7.85 per cent on balances of £40,000 or more and 7.3 for the minimum deposit of £10,000.

The direct service is a break with tradition for a bank, formerly the largest building society, which prides itself on the personal service offered at its branches. But the Halifax, whose chief executive is Mike Blackburn, says it's the lower costs of branchless banking that allows it to offer higher rates.

Safeway's new account, a joint initiative with Abbey National launching on Monday, offers tiered rates of up to 7.4 per cent on balances over £2,500, higher than rivals Sainsbury and Tesco.

But Safeway's rates look disappointing lower down the scale with only 4 per cent for sums under £500. Unlike other supermarket saving accounts which start at £1, the minumum deposit is £50.

Competitors were quick to attack the Halifax's new account which restricts withdrawals to two a year and rules out smaller savers. The bank was also criticised for paying lower rates for their branch-based savings account — only 4.45 per cent on balances of £10,000.

Jim Spowart, managing director of Standard Life bank, said: "It's a defensive mechanism to prevent money from moving to new institutions such as us where all customers get a good deal. There is also the question of what would happen if there is a large movement from their existing customer base to this service. Could they sustain the rates?"

SUSAN EMMETT



Mike Blackburn of the Halifax, which has launched a new savings account

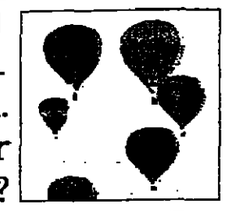
## INSIDE




53 Anne Ashworth on the savings war

THE ECONOMY

51 Inflation. Is it dead or just sleeping?



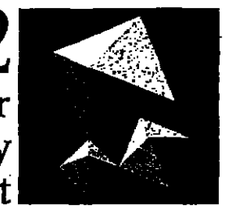
INVESTMENT 1

TRUST WATCH

55 Safe haven investments for the new century

INVESTMENT 2

62 A taste for contemporary works of art

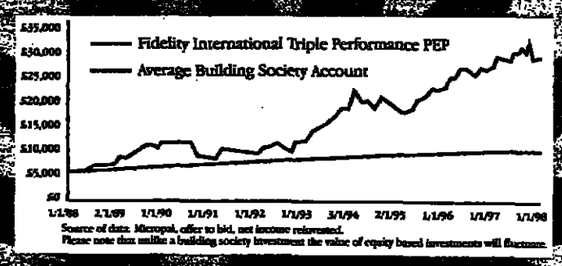


BUSINESS NEWS PAGES 27-31


WEEKEND MONEY is edited by Anne Ashworth


12 MILLION INVESTORS TRUST FIDELITY

THE LONG GOOD BUY.




INTERNATIONAL TRIPLE PERFORMANCE PEP

Markets might be jittery right now. But there's no reason for you to be. History has demonstrated that over the long run, equities have significantly outperformed banks and building societies.

And if you invest with Fidelity, you can reap the benefits of a stockpicking investment strategy that allows us to find real value, even when markets are turbulent.

ISA FRIENDLY

How do we do that? By researching companies more thoroughly than any other investment manager: with more analysts, in more countries around the world, making over 46,000 company contacts every year.

It's a philosophy that has rewarded our investors handsomely. Take our International Triple Performance PEP (thousands do). It's made up of three of our top funds. £6,000 invested in it ten years ago would now be worth £28,067: that's an average annual growth of 16.7%, all tax-free.

And because it invests right across the globe you can enjoy the benefits of a widely diversified portfolio, so all your eggs are not in one basket. So, send off the coupon, pick up the phone or speak to your IFA.

And say 'hello' to a PEP that's stockpickin' good.

To: Fidelity Investments, PO Box 88, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9DZ. Phone 0800 41 41 33.
Please send me information on Fidelity's International Triple Performance PEP.
We will not disclose any information outside the Fidelity Marketing Group.

Name_____

Address_____

Postcode_____ Tel_____ TMP4

PEP/ISA HOTLINE 8AM TO 6PM, 7 DAYS
0800 41 41 33
www.fidelity.co.uk

Fidelity Investments™

JOIN THE WORLD'S No1

Source of all performance figures: Micropal, offer to bid, net income reinvested to 1/1/98. Resources and assets are as at 30/9/97, and include resources of FMR Corp, a U.S company and its affiliates. An investment in Fidelity International Triple Performance PEP will be split as follows: Fidelity European Trust 25% (5 year performance +197.9%), Fidelity South East Asia Trust 25% (5 year performance +60.7%) and Fidelity Special Situations Trust 50% (5 year performance +169.4%). Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments and income from them can go down as well as up and an investor may not get back the amount invested. Tax credits on equity dividends will be reclaimable within a PEP until April 1999, when the new Individual Savings Accounts are to be launched. PEPs will cease to exist in October 1999. The value of tax savings and eligibility to invest in a PEP or ISA will depend upon individual circumstances and all tax rules may change in the future. Fidelity only provides information about its products and will not give investment advice. Issued by Fidelity Investments Ltd, regulated by IMRO and the Personal Investment Authority. CR2192 4


9H's, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered at the newspaper Office

هكذا من الإيميل

**SHOPPING**



Legs & Co: lean-legged trousers and jackets to match

Page 5

**FOOD & DRINK**



Lennox Lewis's lunchbox – by his mother

Page 7

**COUNTRY LIFE**



Hoofing it: the heavy horses are back in business

Page 16

**TRAVEL**



At ease in Princess Margaret's Mustique retreat

Pages 24-25

SATURDAY JANUARY 17 1998

THE TIMES

# WEEKEND

# Out of time and out of space

**London's ancient treasures are decaying due to lack of funding. Robin Young unearths a crisis**

London has more past than it can cope with. History has been coming out of the ground at such a pace that it has filled warehouses in Islington and Hackney, and now there is nowhere else to put it. The Museum of London was forced to close its already overflowing archive of archaeological remains — retrieved from the capital's Underground extensions, building sites, roadworks and foreshore — back in April 1996.

Since then the huge backlog of historical detritus gathering dust on warehouse shelves awaiting examination and analysis has been, in effect, a wasting asset.

"I regard it as an absolute disaster," says Dr Simon Thurley, the museum's new director. "London is losing its enormous and unique advantage of having a vast and integrated collection of its urban archaeology. Our collection is certainly the biggest in Europe, and probably in the world, but now that we cannot accept new finds the collection becomes less complete every day."

Thurley, formerly curator of the historic royal palaces and author of a forthcoming book about Henry VIII's Whitehall Palace, arrived at the Museum of London three months ago. He took the job, he says, "because London is the great archaeological thing of the moment, where attention is centred and everything is happening". The finds, he says, have already transformed our understanding of the city and its past, but are capable of doing so all over again. However, they have come at such a rate that no one has been able to get to grips with them.

The new director is brimming with ideas and ambitions. He retains the schoolboyish enthusiasm with which, at the age of seven, he began excavating his parents' garden at Godmanchester in Cambridgeshire to recover remnants of the Roman basilica which lay below.

But he knows he faces a crisis. The lease on the museum's Islington warehouse expires in September. Before then a new home has to be found for the contents, which are too numerous and bulky to be squeezed into the existing, already strained, storage space the museum has elsewhere.

"The enormous amounts of stuff we have are simply astonishing," Dr Thurley says. "We have 1.1 million objects, of which of course only the absolute *crème de la crème* can be displayed in the museum. There are 265 pallets loaded with stonework, 4,000 tubs of environmental samples [museum-speak for dirt] and ten pallets of dendrology

Continued on page 2



BID JONES

Children open a treasure chest of historical pieces. London Museum director Dr Simon Thurley says: "People should be allowed to handle the real object and not just see it through glass"

SHOPPING ..... 4,5 | FOOD & DRINK ..... 6,7 | PROPERTY ..... 9,10 | GARDENING ..... 12,13 | COUNTRY LIFE ..... 15,16 | HOME LIFE ..... 19 | TRAVEL ..... 23-31 | GAMES ..... 39,40



# Philistines are good for the arts

## Labour's new breed of businessman will give the common man the culture he deserves, says **Gerald Kaufman**

Labour luvvies must be in despair. Sir Colin Southgate of EMI is to be chairman of the Royal Opera House. Gerry Robinson of Granada has been confirmed as the new chairman of the Arts Council. *The man behind the Spice Girls is* to decide the fate of Madam Butterfly and Floria Tosca.

The caterer responsible for dishing out low cuisine at motorway outlets now assumes the power to dish out cash for the high arts. Robinson lacks even the appendage of a knighthood, let alone the *hereditary peerage to which his* predecessor, the Earl of Gowrie, was born.

Juicy jobs that the luvvies expected to be showered upon them from the up-ended cornucopia deployed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Chris Smith, have instead been bestowed on — there is no point in mincing words, dears — common businessmen. The vandals are not simply at the gates; they are occupying the citadels.

I do not suppose it will improve matters for me to say that I am delighted by the appointments of Southgate and Robinson, and that I hope there will be many more such. Sir Peter Hall — not Labour, certainly, but undeniably one of the crowned heads of luvviedom — has derided me as a roundhead (an innate and irremediable physical condition, I fear).

Stephen Daldry of the Royal *Court has denounced me as a* philistine. I am, after all, the chairman of the Commons committee which declared that it would prefer a businesslike philistine to be in charge of Covent Garden rather than an arts-obsessed aesthete.



Robinson: Arts Council boss

*So let me state my* credentials. I spend a substantial part of my income on buying tickets to the opera, concerts and the theatre (including plays staged by Sir Peter Hall, many of which I admire, though I wish he would lay off the creakier Feydeau farces). I not only support public funding of the arts but would be delighted if Gordon Brown found it possible to loosen the Treasury purse-strings and double, triple, quadruple such subsidies. Unlike Sir Peter and Mr Daldry, I have stood at the bar at Gorton Working Men's Club and argued the case for state support for *the arts to constituents who com*plain that their smoking underwrites the privileged pleasures of toffee-nosed operagoers.

I do however, believe that if the fags and other tax payments of Gorton working men — *and women — are to* help keep the high arts going, these revenues ought to be husbanded and disbursed in a prudent, even parsimonious, manner; and, whatever the considerable virtues of Lord Chadlington (former Covent Garden chairman) and Lord Gowrie, our Select Committee report on Covent Garden revealed that a substantial deficit had accumulated at the Royal Opera House: that the itinerant closure season had started disastrously; and that the Arts Council had not kept a sufficiently critical oversight on income and outgoings.

*Men like Sir Colin Southgate* and Gerry Robinson — and women of equal calibre — run profit-making businesses extremely well. That same business sense can make sure that Covent Garden now gets a firm grip on its finances, and that the Arts Council monitors with the utmost stringency the money that it hands out.

I do not mean that either chairman should interfere with artistic judgments. Not every opera staged by our national and regional companies ought to be a guaranteed crowd-pleaser (though I am told that ROH productions of such historically cast-iron war-horses as *The Barber of Seville* and the forthcoming *The Marriage of Figaro* are not pulling in the anticipated number of customers). Subsidised arts should take chances and risk failures; but every penny spent on them should be monitored carefully.

Moreover, these activities, motivated by artistic aspirations, should be run with the same acumen as *more — how shall I put it? — vulgar* forms of showbusiness. The other day I ran into an eminent boxing promoter who contended to me that Sir Colin Southgate, far from being too brutalist an appointment, did not possess the most relevant *business qualifica*tion. "It's venues," he exclaimed, "venues!"



Southgate: new opera chief

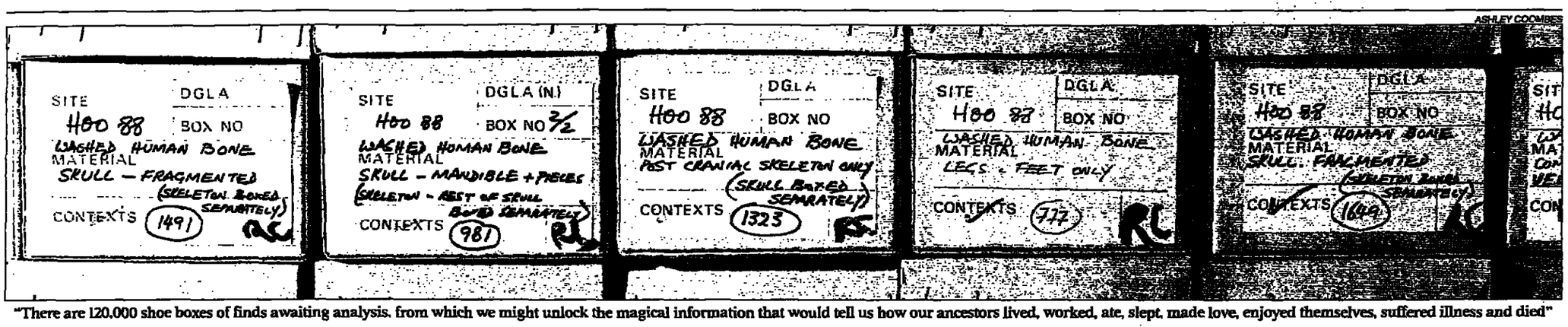
There is, indeed, a case for Sir Colin recruiting to his board someone who has experience in running profitable entertainment venues. While Labatt's Apollo, Hammersmith, may not be the ideal location for staging the Royal Ballet, the boss of Labatt's Apollo surely knows a thing or two about managing theatres which, unsubsidised, attract enthusiastic crowds. So does Raymond Gubay, who stages popular operatic performances without drawing on the cigarettes of Gorton Working Men's Club. It is time that, while artistic standards are maintained, fastidiousness is kicked out of the stage door. Seventeen days ago I attended a huge New Year's Eve bash *given by the San Francisco* Symphony Orchestra and two jazz bands, with lavish food and drinks; it was a sell-out. Why were such events not staged at the ROH when it was open? The superb venue of this hugely successful party *is called the Louise M.* Davies Symphony Hall.

When Nicholas Snowman, boss of the South Bank Centre, suggests renaming his concert halls to rake in donors' cash, he arouses lip-curling disdain. Yet every seat at the Davies Symphony Hall seemed to carry the name-card of a sponsor. Practically every square inch at New York's Lincoln Center is ostentatiously sponsored. If the indefatigable Vivien Duffield could persuade some generous donor to cough up a sufficient sum, I would not object if the ROH were renamed the Mrs Horatio Hornblower Opera House.

Nor should the precincts of the ROH or other high-toned venues be regarded as sacrosanct temples of art. I hope the new bosses of our artistic community will consider letting out theatres, galleries and other venues for conventions, lunches and other business events when they are not in use for their primary purpose.

For too long, too many arts organisations have been *concerned about tone* rather than substance. Rather than show that the arts are part of real life, some such organisations have separated themselves from *real life. They imply that they* are doing the taxpayers a favour in deigning to take their money and then make it clear that the riff-raff who fund them have no business wanting to be sure that their money is carefully spent. That is the kind of culture that makes some of us want to reach for our guns. That is the kind of culture that such welcome new brooms as Sir Colin Southgate and Gerry Robinson must sweep away.

ASHLEY COOMBES




"There are 120,000 shoe boxes of finds awaiting analysis, from which we might unlock the magical information that would tell us how our ancestors lived, worked, ate, slept, made love, enjoyed themselves, suffered illness and died"

**Continued from page 1**

*samples [wood], coming from* 3,110 excavations carried out in London during the past 70 years.

"There are 120,000 shoe boxes of finds awaiting analysis, from which we might unlock the magical information that would tell us how our ancestors lived, worked, ate, slept, made love, enjoyed themselves, suffered illness and died.

"There is material here for hundreds of thousands of doctoral theses — on Tudor eating habits in the City of London, for example, or the sanitation of Roman London, *and any number of projects in* social and architectural history. PhD students are desperate for good subjects, and here we have thousands of them in danger of going to waste."

What does Dr Thurley intend to do about it? "Well, the most urgent priority is to reopen our archive in a new home. Ideally we would make the whole collection 100 per cent accessible for research. We would have to get the *whole thing electronically in*dexed on a computer system, when it would become the most tremendous resource for *academic research and edu*cation." The present site of the museum's principal storage space in Hackney, on long lease from the Corporation of London, is next door to more Corporation-owned warehousing which has long stood vacant.

Dr Thurley sees almost boundless potential: a research centre, with demonstration areas where visitors might handle the museum's less precious exhibits, learn to make their own amphorae or to forge a spear or sword, and take courses in the increasingly popular pursuit of amateur excavation and research.

"Archaeology is an increasingly popular obsession," he says. "Programmes like *Time Team* on Channel 4 get quite incredible ratings. It would be marvellous if all the people who are interested in the subject could experience what I consider the real thrill of being a curator — the chance to handle the real historical object and not just to see it through a glass barrier."

*He picks up a medieval jug* to illustrate the point. "When you handle it, you realise what an awkward vessel it would *have been to use. Its bottom is* rocky, it would have toppled over and spilt easily, yet only by looking at it closely do you appreciate how elaborately it has been ornamented. It is quite a different experience to seeing it in a display cabinet."

If the collection cannot be found more space and indexed, it will probably be stashed in containers and mothballed in a goods yard, inaccessible to researchers.

Already some of the environmental samples, black plastic bags of silt and soil carrying the seeds, pollen, human excrement and other *tell-tale remains of past ages,* have burst open and become worthless, because their integrity has been lost. Buddleias sprout from some, while London rain has turned other excavated historic samples to thoroughly modern mud.

Racks of shelves in the warehouses are filled with pots and bones and shards and saggars (pots to mould pots in) and architectural bits and bobs from prehistory to *the present. Upstairs a maca*bre morgue is compiled in cardboard boxes labelled with such notes as "pre-cranial skeleton", "human — feet only" or "fragmented skull". Not all are in standard museum storage boxes. One poor chap, Roman I think, has ended up labelled simply "Skellie" in a box which originally held Popov Vodka.



Dr Simon Thurley with the skull of a medieval horse. "We have enough material here to give every school in London its own museum"

Other remains are in *hastily requisi*tioned cardboard boxes bearing the labels "Lemon Hart", "Dutch Salted Butter", "Bereich Nierstein" or with the names of modern pesticides. Some of the cardboard is collapsing, and in other places cryptic notes ("These seven boxes and one small bag all required by Payat") have become detached from the items to which they originally applied.

"This is what happens when a system is neglected and collapses," says John Shepherd, the museum's archive manager, regretfully. "It is horrendous and it's getting even more so."

Eventually all the human remains, unless there is pressing academic reason for re*taining them*, will receive a decent, non-denominational burial in the Corporation of London cemetery on the edge of Wanstead Flats, east London, but they cannot go to their last resting place, of course, until they have been thoroughly examined, catalogued and evaluated.

*Although Dr Thurley insists* that the Museum of London's accessibility rating is still comparatively high among museums, most of the archive is already effectively closed for lack of staff to locate specific items or to oversee researchers' use of them.

But if the money can be found to preserve the collection in accessible form, the new director is full of schemes for putting it to fuller use. Already he is in intensive talks with the leading local historical and archaeological societies in London, hoping to set up partnership projects with them which would recruit an army of amateur enthusiasts to help in the museum's own research work.

"The societies are big and their members are an important part of our constituency," he says. "It would be marvellous if in return for our *providing the resource of this* fabulous archive they could help us in running it and extending our activities."

Recently Dr Thurley addressed a meeting of the Standing Conference on London Archaeology about his scheme. "Every single person in that room said: 'Yes, we must have this. We simply must make it work'," he says.

*If they do, there will no* shortage of further Thurleyian schemes to follow. "One idea is that if we could find a sponsor to provide us with a couple of *double-decker buses, we could* equip a mobile museum and tour schools and events throughout Greater London," he says. "We would say: 'Instead of coming to the museum, we will bring the museum to you'." There would easily be enough material, he says, to make a Roman mobile museum, or a medieval, Tudor or Georgian one.

*However, the bus scheme* would require that most expensive of items — staff. The museum's present staff of some 300 already accounts for more than a third of its annual budget, founded upon grants of £4.2 million a year each from the Government and the Corporation of London.

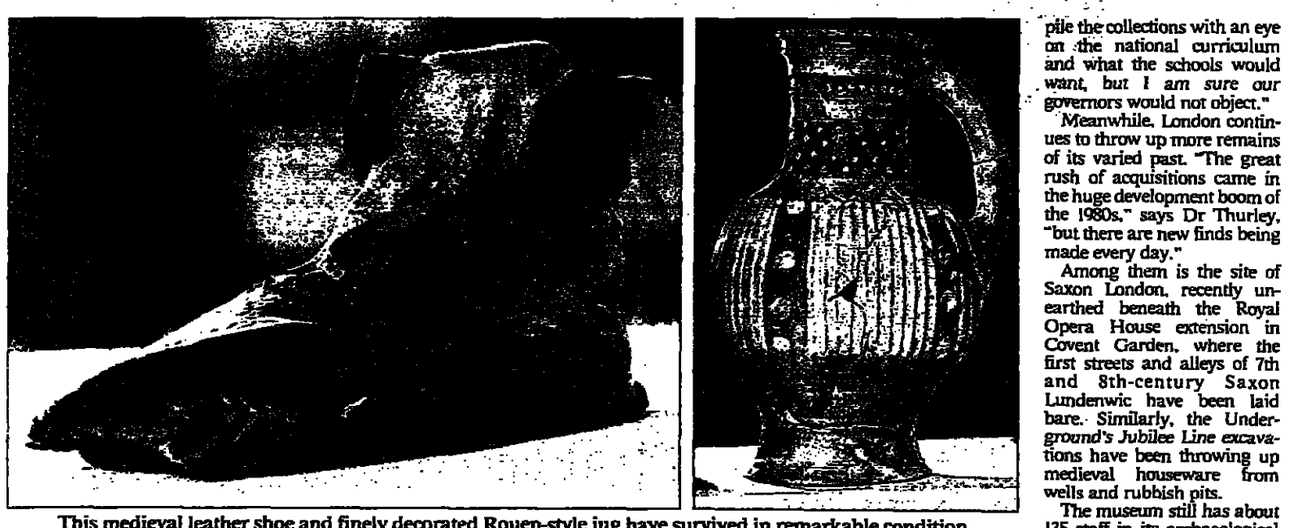
Another of Thurley's brainwaves has no direct staffing problems. "If we can get the collection evaluated we have enough material to provide every school in London with its own museum," he says. "It would not cost a fortune. We could provide *them with a strong* sectioned box with a good clamp on the front, and a video to go with the package. A Roman museum, for example, could include a Roman shoe. They could have a piece of building material, a roof tile or a brick, and some examples of Roman *foodstuffs*, like bones or oystershells, and perhaps a lamp or something like that.

"It would be quite possible to do the same with our medieval or Tudor stuff as well. We would have to compile the collections with an eye on the national curriculum and what the schools would *want, but I am sure our* governors would not object."

Meanwhile, London continues to throw up more remains of its varied past. "The great rush of acquisitions came in the huge development boom of the 1980s," says Dr Thurley, "but there are new finds being made every day."

Among them is the site of Saxon London, recently unearthed beneath the Royal Opera House extension in Covent Garden, where the first streets and alleys of 7th and 8th-century Saxon Lundenwic have been laid bare. Similarly, the Under*ground's Jubilee Line excava*tions have been throwing up medieval houseware from wells and rubbish pits.

The museum still has about *135 staff in its archaeological* service (MOLAS), though at peak in the 1980s that number rose to almost 500. "We have only two working on the archive, where there used to be six," says Mr Shepherd, "and we have to concentrate on getting stuff ready to move out. What becomes of it depends on what we can turn up in the next few months."



This medieval leather shoe and finely decorated Rouen-style jug have survived in remarkable condition

**READER OFFER:** SAVE ON MUSEUM VISIT

■ READERS of *The Times* can take advantage of a special offer of £5 for a family ticket (usually £9.50) to the Museum of London (nearest tube station Barbican). Simply turn up and present a copy of Weekend at the entrance. The offer is valid until January 31.

JANUARY SALE

Saturday 17th until Saturday 31st of January

Monday to Saturday 9.00-6.00

*Please phone for catalogue, fabric samples or further information*



HANDMADE FURNITURE • FABRICS • WALLPAPER • HAND COLOURED LEATHER • KILIMS

50% *reductions on most showroom stock*

25% *off new furniture orders*

40% *reductions on George Smith fabrics*

*For example - to order 6' Standard Sofa in 'Gollut' fabric. Was £3272 inc. VAT, now is £2291 inc. VAT*

GEORGE SMITH

587-589 KINGS ROAD LONDON SW6 2EH

*Tel:* 0171-384 1004 *Fax:* 0171-731 4451

http://www.georgesmith.com

N·Peal Cashmere

SALE

FINAL REDUCTIONS

mens and ladies cashmere knitwear and accessories

37 & 71 Burlington Arcade, W1.

& 192 Piccadilly, W.1

Information: 0800 220 222

**Nicholas Foulkes** pays tribute to a great dandy, whose wardrobe comes under the hammer this week

# A gentleman in Bunny's clothing



In later years, left, and ready for the Amethyst Ball, right, held in 1981 for his 70th birthday, he wore a catsuit embroidered with beads, an organza cape and a plumed headdress

Sales such as that of the Roger Collection at Sotheby's are increasingly rare. All the old clichés about it marking the "end of an era" and "not seeing its like again" will doubtless be given an airing come 10.30am on January 28, when the first of 1,505 lots goes under the gavel. And in this case such hackneyed sentiments are entirely appropriate.

Sandy, Alan and Bunny Roger were the three sons of Sir Alexander Roger, a dour, self-made, early 20th-century Aberdonian telecommunications tycoon. They were packed off to the rigorous Loretto school, but when Sir Alexander offered Bunny a reward for having been selected for one of the school teams, he asked for — and, to his father's credit, received — a doll's house.



Bunny Roger, seated on floor, and friends celebrate the new year

The collection of furniture, paintings, objets and clothes — most importantly clothes — was put together by the three brothers. However, it is the spirit of Bunny (christened Neil Munroe Roger but known as Bunny because, so the story goes, when his nurse first saw him she announced that he looked like "a dear little rabbit") which dances through the catalogue.

Sent down from Balliol for what the Sotheby's catalogue delicately calls "corrupting homosexual practices", Bunny flourished in the world of Terence Rattigan and Freddie Ashton. In 1938, with money from his father, he established himself as a couturier with a salon in Bruton Street, central London. He later went into business with Hardy Amies.

According to one of Bunny's obituaries, his war was equally colourful. "Typically, he claimed to have advanced through enemy lines with a chiffon scarf flying as he brandished a copy of *Vogue*. He also said being *in no man's land* at least gave him a chance to repair his make-up."



The decorator Nicky Haslam remembers meeting Bunny in the late 1950s. "I was 16 and he must have been about 46," recalls Haslam. "He was already a kind of legend. He was so much the witty queen of London — he was a figure and quite frightening to me to begin with."



Foulkes: one dandy's homage to another

Poised, elegant and with cheekbones which looked as though they had been chiselled from Carrara marble, he seemed never to be without a quick and witty riposte.

The catalogue recounts the following anecdote. "A taxi driver once reputedly stopped him as he stepped out of a cab powdering his nose with the words, 'Watch out, you have dropped your diamond necklace, love', to which he retorted, 'Diamonds with tweeds? Never!'"

According to Haslam, when told that a friend had broken his shoulder, Bunny remarked that he must have been trying to get the chip off it.

Dress designer, war hero, mordant wit and master of the lacerating one-liner, Bunny is, however, best remembered as an immaculate dresser. His appearance always made a lasting impression. Forty years ago Frederick Fox, the milliner, was newly arrived from the Antipodes. He was in the middle of an interview for a job with Otto Lucas, the society hatter, when he first encountered Bunny. Fresh from the colonies, Fox had never seen anything like this man before. "He had a little brown curly bowler, a brown suit, a pearl grey waistcoat and spats. I was just amazed."

If nothing else, the sale offers the chance to buy into a piece of sartorial history. For a few pounds it is possible to own a part of one of the most spectacular male wardrobes ever put together. Its interest lies not in the fact that it provides a record of the times through which Bunny lived. It is that the clothes are a monument to an individual who refused to compromise.

His close friend John Blamey most epigrammatically summed up Bunny's style as that of a "glamorous upper-class Teddy boy".

Haslam recalls the key elements of Bunny's dress as waisted suits with turn-back cuffs, covered buttons, a gold watch chain, boots ("proper boots, not cowboy boots") and an extremely high, stiff collar. Add to that the spats, a jewelled tiepin and a sharply cut overcoat, then top the whole ensemble with one of his famous curlicue-brimmed bowler hats and he must have seemed like a prototypical John Steed — only more so.

The essence of the style remained unaltered for almost the last half-century of his life. His trousers — narrow, close-fitting, tapered, with cavalry-cut bottoms — were perfected in Capri in the late 1940s. Bunny ordered several pairs from local tailors, repeating the instruction "*stretta stretta*", until the right, pencil-like silhouette was achieved. Coats and overcoats were waisted with high buttoning. Evening clothes were exuberant explosions of velvet and satins. In the 1960s and early 1970s he flirted with the Nehru collar.

However, it was for his famous parties, such as the 1981 Amethyst Ball to celebrate his 70th birthday, that he went to quite remarkable extremes with his dress. For the ball he commissioned a catsuit embroidered with mauve bugle beads which he wore with a mauve organza cape, trimmed with lilac fur and completed with plumed headdress.

"They weighed tons, his clothes," says his friend, Min Hogg, editor of *World of Interiors*. "You could hardly lift them because of the glass beads. He trembled as he said hello to people; he had the most awful first-night nerves."

The care he took with his party clothes was mirrored in the lengths to which he went to create the appropriate atmosphere for his parties. Fox recalls the transformation wrought on Bunny's house for the Ball of Fire — his last great party, thrown to mark his 80th birthday in 1991.



One of the wardrobes at Bunny Roger's London house

"The theme was a ball of fire and the house was remarkable. You walked in through the hall and they had built a stage at the back over the garden. It was all done with red carpet. There were flames painted on the dance floor and the ceiling was blue with stars and red tulle flames. A gazebo in the garden was decorated in the same way."

Bunny himself appeared to his 400 guests through flames and smoke in a catsuit embroidered with flame-coloured sequins and a bright orange organza cape. He expected his guests to make almost as much of an effort as he did.

"You couldn't just cop out by wearing a red bow tie," remembers Fox, who gave a dinner before the party at which one guest appeared dressed as a burning ember in "shades of grey and black chiffon with a red spiral on her head that was the flame".

Bunny was not the sort of person to worry about the opinion of others. After lunch in Fortnum's Spanish Bar, he would bring out his powder and correct his appearance as if it were the most natural occurrence. Yet those who knew him say there was never anything remotely "limp-wristed" about him. He was apparently a tough survivor, fighting cancer and still dancing past breakfast-time — quite a feat for an octogenarian who, in the words of Peter Lumley, PR to Hardy Amies, "had had most of his insides cut out". It was more that he cared passionately about the finer points of his appearance. "Every day was getting dressed up for Bunny," says Fox fondly.

The range of colour, pattern, texture and detail in his clothes is the work of an artist whose wardrobe was his canvas. There are overcoats in camel, cream and charcoal. There are shirts of window-pane check, of hound's-tooth checks and of horizontal stripes. There are dining suits in every shade of velvet from plum, through mustard and cinnamon, to sapphire blue. There are summer suits of white and yellow herringbone-weave silk and linen, dusty pink gabardine and ivory silk. Prince of Wales checks, hound's-tooth checks, check-on-check checks and tartans galore. From lemon yellow through tomato red and apple green to tangerine, he was the complete colourist.

However, to see these clothes without their wearer is to miss so much of their appeal. When worn by Bunny himself, these clothes assumed a drop-dead glamour. There is something iconic about a hatted, suited, gloved Bunny — all 5ft 10¾in of him, with his 29in waist — looking down at the camera lens, neck encased immobile in an impossibly stiff collar, cane tucked under his arm, that will remain with me long after his clothes, his carpets, his furnishings and his knick-knacks have been dispersed to their new owners.

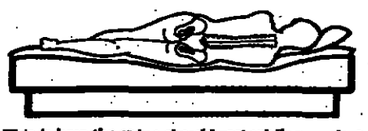
Simply put, he was one of the last great dandies of the 20th century.

● *The Roger sale is at Sotheby's (0171-293 5000) from January 28-30*

TRY ONE OF THE WORLD'S FINEST BEDS AT DUXIANA.




In Sweden, the people who make the DUX bed believe that a firmer mattress is not necessarily a better mattress



*This is how the spine should rest while you sleep - in a completely natural position*

They have researched the fact that a firm bed resists, rather than conforms to, the position of the body.

So the body must constantly adjust in order to get comfortable, and independent studies show the average person sleeping on a hard bed changes position 20 to 30 times a night.

The Dux bed has been designed with this in mind to give you a deeper and more restful night's sleep. We believe it's the best made bed in the world.

It has two layers of inner-springs instead of the usual one. The upper layer moulds itself naturally to the contours of the body, designed to allow the spine to lie straight.

The bottom layer acts as a buffer against harsh movement and provides firm support.

Duxiana is the place where you can not only buy these remarkable beds, but you'll also find everything you ever wish for the bedroom. Including the beautiful collection of 100% DUX cotton linens.

Buying a bed is one of the most important purchases you'll ever make. After all, you spend 8 hours a night in bed - that's one third of your life.

So we invite you to come in and try the DUX bed. Lie in it; take a nap

You're going to love it.

Your back will too.

Duxiana, 46 George Street, London W1H 5FR. Tel: 0171-486 2363

Duxiana, 11 Upper High Street, Winchester, Hampshire. SO23 8UT. Tel. 01962 877766. (Closed Mondays.)

Duxiana, 4 Montpelier Gardens Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 2TE Tel: 01423 506603 (Beside the Drum and Monkey Restaurant)



Post the coupon off today for your FREE copy of our latest full colour magazine.

NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

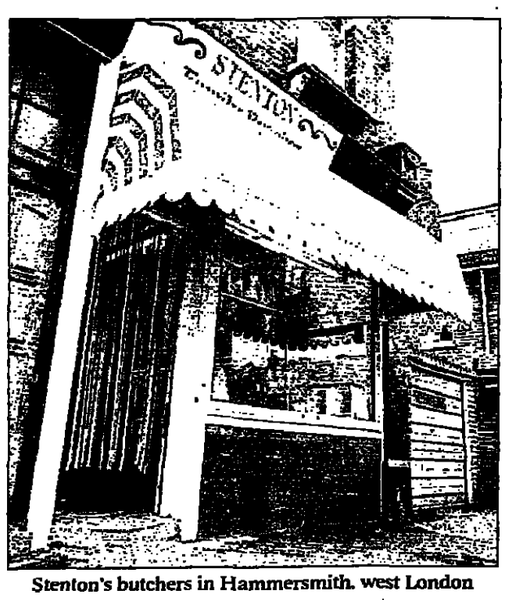
DUX

DUXIANA

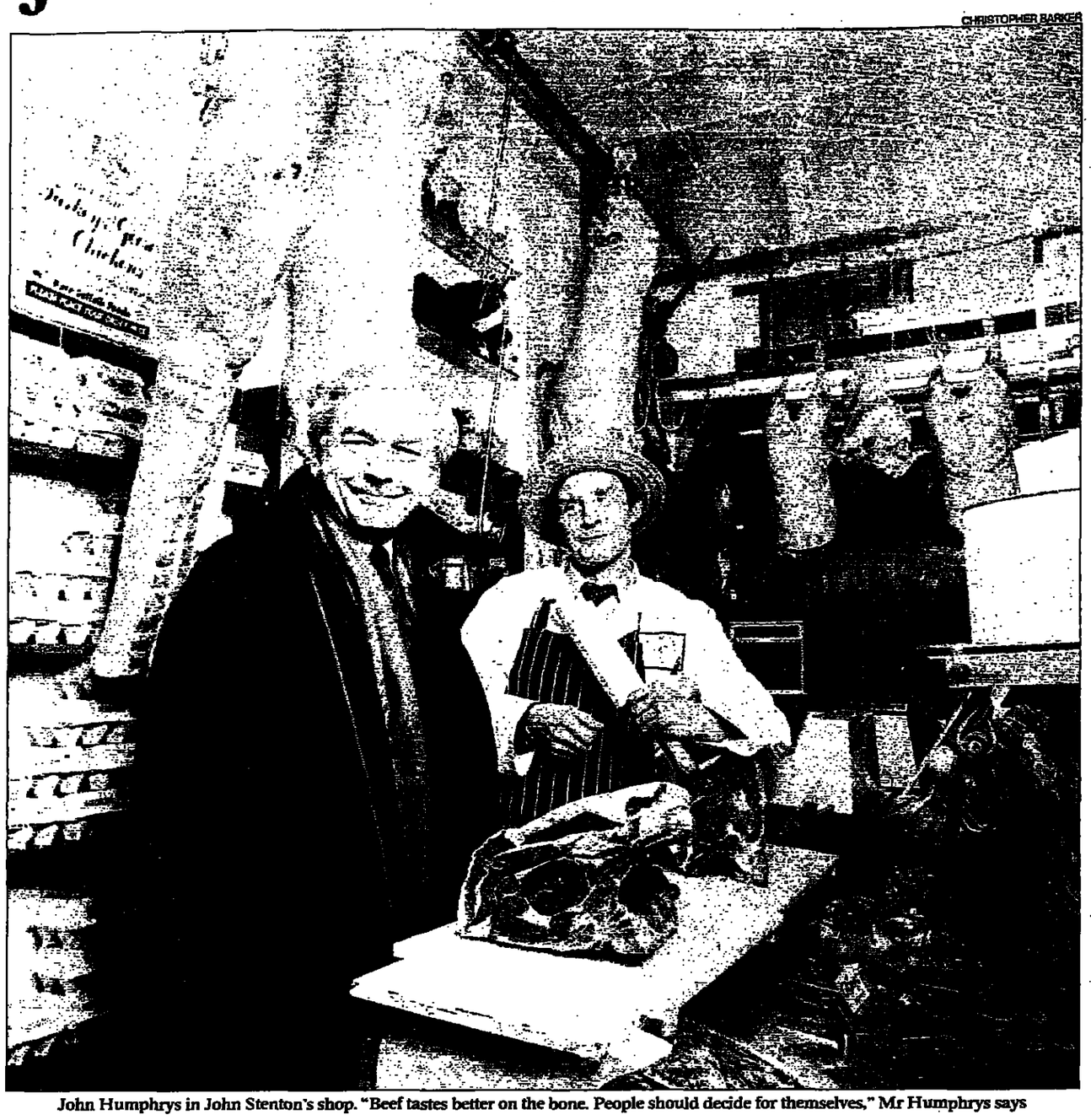
STOCKHOLM HAMBURG DUSSELDORF COLOGNE MUNICH BONN NICOSIA BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN LONDON WINCHESTER HARROGATE ATHENS REYKJAVIK MARBELLA CHUR BERN SEOUL JEDDA ATLANTA DENVER DALLAS LA JOLLA LOS ANGELES SEATTLE NEW YORK NEWPORT BEACH PALO ALTO PHILADELPHIA SAN FRANCISCO SAN RAFAEL VANCOUVER

هكذا من الأصل

# Of all the joints in all the world ...




Stenton's butchers in Hammersmith, west London



CHRISTOPHER BARKER

John Stenton's shop. "Beef tastes better on the bone. People should decide for themselves," Mr Humphrys says

## John Humphrys, the terrier-like broadcaster, is a great fan of his local butcher, says **Michael Cable**

my favourite shop

Asked to choose his favourite shop, the *Today* programme's John Humphrys plumps unhesitatingly for his local family butcher.

This will probably serve only to confirm the suspicions of those political interviewees who must sometimes have wondered if he is fed on chunks of raw meat before being unleashed on them in the studio. "Actually, I just take a bite out of whoever is sitting opposite me," chuckles Mr Humphrys, famed for interrupting the former Tory Chancellor Kenneth Clarke 32 times in an interview in a determined attempt to get a straight answer and whose refusal to let Harriet Harman off the hook led to an official complaint from Labour to the BBC about "the John Humphrys problem".

"Of course, you have to be careful," he says, admiring some of the choice cuts in John Stenton's tiny shop in a quiet residential west London back street. "I mean, never mind BSE. You don't know what you might get from some of these politicians."

The banning of beef on the bone is a major topic of conversation among the unashamed carnivores who flock to Stenton's from all over London, often pausing to sit on the bench and chew the fat while waiting to be served. "The Government is going to have to back-pedal on this one," insists the mild-mannered John Stenton, who has been running the shop for 15 years with his wife Lena as book-keeper, his daughter Rebecca helping out behind the counter during her college holidays and 30-year-old Paul, one of his three sons, lined up to take over.

He deals only in certified organic and free-range meat and says: "Without exception, my customers want their beef on the bone. Almost all meat tastes better that way."

"The nearer the bone, the sweeter the meat," agrees Mr Humphrys, taking a characteristically mischievous delight in being just a little bit politically incorrect ("My 25-year-old daughter Catherine will be cross with me; she's a passionate vegetarian").

He prefers lamb to beef, especially shoulder and a special cut of neck that John Stenton prepares for him and which he cooks for himself with "loads of rosemary and garlic". When it comes to the beef ban, he feels strongly that people should be able to make up their own minds. "I definitely think they should have the choice, as they do with cigarettes.

"The risk involved in smoking cigarettes is enormous, whereas even the experts admit that the risk involved in eating beef on the bone, if there is any at all, is minuscule. I can understand why the Government has imposed the ban, and it is for political reasons rather than reasons of public health."

The long-term answer, he says, is a return to organic farming — something he believes in so passionately that he is planning to buy his own farm. He had one before — a 134-acre dairy farm in west Wales, with 65 head of cattle that he often milked himself — but he sold most of it when he was no longer able to get down there so often because of the pressure of work, after he moved from the *Nine O'Clock News* to *Today* and then *On The Record* and *You Decide*.

Now he is looking around again for up to 1,000 acres which he wants to convert to a model organic farm. "Modern intensive farming, encouraged by the Common Agricultural Policy, has damaged the environment and decimated rural communities," he says. "But there is a strong move among consumers towards organic produce and, with Government backing for organic farmers, things can still be turned around."

Mr Stenton's old-fashioned butcher's shop is two minutes' walk from Mr Humphrys' home in the Brackenbury Village area of Hammersmith, west London, and, apart from the quality of the meat available, he loves the corner-shop atmosphere.

Mr Stenton says: "Lenny Henry came in recently, and said he could not understand why I hadn't got a string of shops. But one is enough, otherwise you lose touch with customers."

Of Mr Humphrys, he adds: "He's a lovely guy and I admire what he does. We have to have people like him asking the right questions and not letting the politicians evade them." Despite the occasional complaints from political big-wigs, the so-called Grand Inquisitor has never been told to go easy by anyone at the BBC. "As far as they are concerned, I'm doing the job they pay me to do," he says. "I'm persistent at times, but that is what the audience wants. After the run-in with Harriet Harman, I got 600 letters, of which only 30 accused me of being unfair."

Admirers will be pleased to learn that he has signed a contract to keep him at *Today* for at least another three years but, as he contemplates the possibility of life as an organic farmer, there are undoubtedly those at Westminster who will be relieved to see him move on to pastures new.

● *Stenton, 55 Aldensley Road, London W6 9PL (0181-748 6121). Open: Tues, Weds, Fri, 7.30am-6.30pm; Thurs, 7.30am-1pm; Sat, 7.30am-5.30pm.*

## GADGETS



Kodak's DC210 camera

THE biggest drawback to affordable digital cameras remains the quality of the prints. Kodak's DC210 delivers "megapixel" picture quality. Even pictures blown-up to ten-by-eight hold their definition.

The DC210 gobbles AA batteries at an alarming rate but the pictures are splendid. These are stored on miniature 4MB memory cards, which hold up to 30 each.

Images can be viewed, saved or deleted via the camera's screen or transferred to a PC for finer manipulation using the software supplied.

The Magnum Classic Talk Frame allows you to display your favourite photographs in a bulky plastic frame — then record and play back a six-second soundbite. Terrific for putting giggles to smiles.

TIM WAPSHOTT

● *DC210 camera, £749, Kodak (0800 281487). Magnum Classic Talk Frame, £19.99 plus p&p. The Leading Edge (0171-499 7891)*

## SHOP WATCH

■ WHILE away the long winter evenings with indulgently perfumed candles, **Grand Illusions Maison** mail-order catalogue (£2.50) offers aromatherapy candles in delicious-smelling lavender, orange or anise. Choose from 8in dinner candles (£10.95 for seven) or a candle in a tin (£6.95). The catalogue is crammed with beautiful home furniture, paints and accessories. The Monday to Friday order line is 0181-892 2151.

■ REVAMP your wardrobe, but get someone else to do the essential shopping list for you. Former model **Lena Proudlock** will whizz through your clothes, casting out unflattering things, putting together fresh combinations, and either compose a shopping list of must-haves or take you shopping for the day. She believes in minimal quantities, but with the right mix of designer clothes, good quality basics and antique-market finds. Contact her on 01666 890230.

■ DIP into **Felicitous**, the gourmet food shop, where you can pick up an entire chef-cooked supper for one, prepared by a former Kensington Place cook. As well as mouthwatering fudge, honey, olive oil, cheese, wine and more, you can get a great cappuccino and can order tailor-made dinner-party food with only 48 hours' notice. Felicitous, 19 Kensington Park Road, London W11 2EU (0171-243 4050).

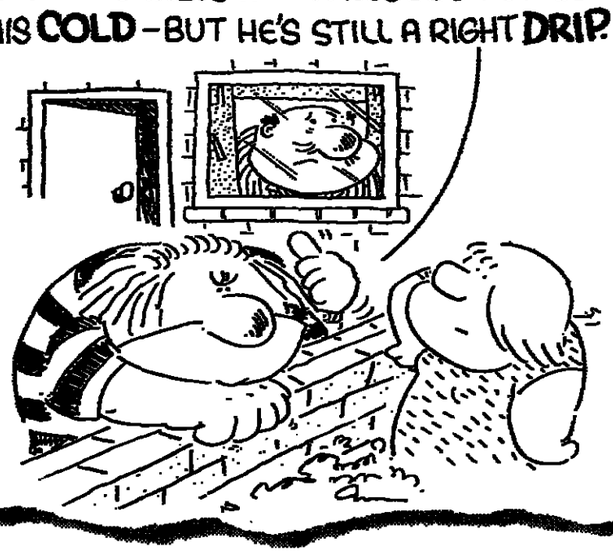
■ WRAP up in Casa Zegna's fabulous men's collection of cashmere dressing gowns, chenille slippers and pure linen pyjamas, exclusive to **Ermenegildo Zegna** shops. Just in are the new spring ranges in pistachio, cream and warm yellows. See them at Ermenegildo Zegna, 37 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-493 4471) or 42 Shelton Street, London WC2 (0171-497 0001).

■ CAROLINE Charles's flagship store now has a home collection, including her exclusive cashmere blankets, candles, nightwear and bedlinen. **Caroline Charles**, 56-57 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 (0171-225 3197).

■ LOOK out for **Gap's** newly-launched nail varnishes (£2.50). Colours will change with each new clothes collection, so get ready next week for light yellow, lilac and spring green. Call 0800 427789 for your nearest branch.

JUDITH WILSON

HÖFELS GARLIC AND PARSLEY HELPED HIS COLD – BUT HE'S STILL A RIGHT DRIP.



Höfels

GARLIC WITH PARSLEY

Everyone feels under the weather when they've got a cold. And sometimes there's no sympathy either. Fortunately Höfels Garlic & Parsley – a traditional herbal remedy – can help stop colds getting you down, by helping to relieve the symptoms naturally. Garlic and Parsley have traditionally benefited generations of users, and now with Höfels Garlic and Parsley, those benefits are available in a convenient, one a day formulation, that's easy to take all winter long. Help drips dry this winter with Höfels Garlic and Parsley.

Always read the label

Höfels ODOURLESS ONE-A-DAY GARLIC WITH PARSLEY TABLETS

Höfels Herbal Supplements
Natural healthcare for this day & age

SEVEN SEAS Health Care

# Bright ideas for dull days

Photographs by **Des Jenson**
Research by **Jennifer Rüggeberg**

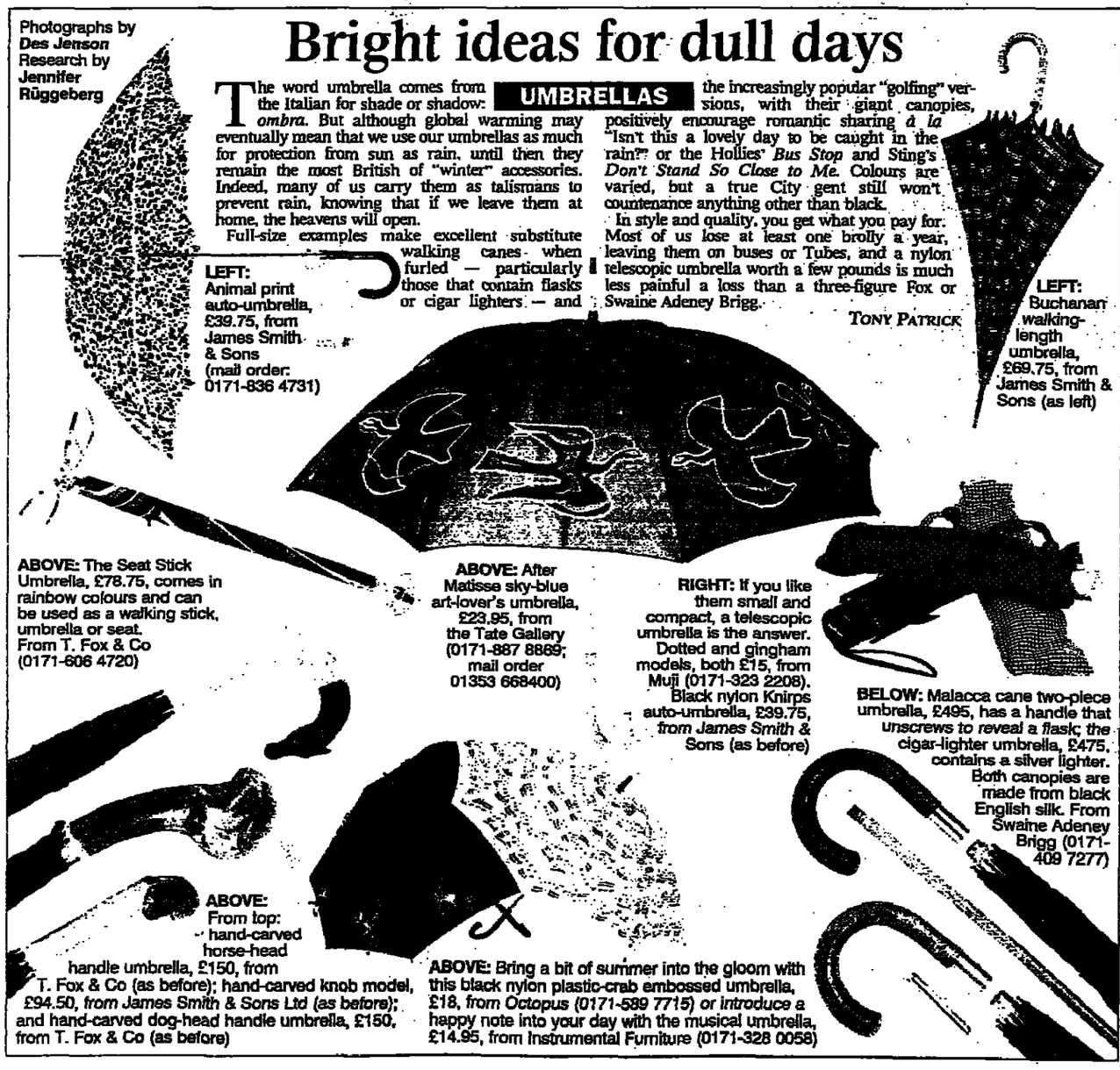
## UMBRELLAS

The word umbrella comes from the Italian for shade or shadow: *ombra*. But although global warming may eventually mean that we use our umbrellas as much for protection from sun as rain, until then they remain the most British of "winter" accessories. Indeed, many of us carry them as talismans to prevent rain, knowing that if we leave them at home, the heavens will open.

Full-size examples make excellent substitute walking canes when furled — particularly those that contain flasks or cigar lighters — and the increasingly popular "golfing" versions, with their giant canopies, positively encourage romantic sharing *à la* "Isn't this a lovely day to be caught in the rain?" or the Hollies' *Bus Stop* and Sting's *Don't Stand So Close to Me*. Colours are varied, but a true City gent still won't countenance anything other than black.

In style and quality, you get what you pay for. Most of us lose at least one brolly a year, leaving them on buses or Tubes, and a nylon telescopic umbrella worth a few pounds is much less painful a loss than a three-figure Fox or Swaine Adeney Brigg.

TONY PATRICK



LEFT: Animal print auto-umbrella, £39.75, from James Smith & Sons (mail order: 0171-836 4731)

LEFT: Buchanan walking-length umbrella, £69.75, from James Smith & Sons (as left)

ABOVE: The Seat Stick Umbrella, £78.75, comes in rainbow colours and can be used as a walking stick, umbrella or seat. From T. Fox & Co (0171-606 4720)

ABOVE: After Matisse sky-blue art-lover's umbrella, £23.95, from the Tate Gallery (0171-887 8869; mail order 01353 668400)

RIGHT: If you like them small and compact, a telescopic umbrella is the answer. Dotted and gingham models, both £15, from Muji (0171-323 2208). Black nylon Knirps auto-umbrella, £39.75, from James Smith & Sons (as before)

BELOW: Malacca cane two-piece umbrella, £495, has a handle that unscrews to reveal a flask; the cigar-lighter umbrella, £475, contains a silver lighter. Both canopies are made from black English silk. From Swaine Adeney Brigg (0171-409 7277)

ABOVE: From top: hand-carved horse-head handle umbrella, £150, from T. Fox & Co (as before); hand-carved knob model, £94.50, from James Smith & Sons Ltd (as before); and hand-carved dog-head handle umbrella, £150, from T. Fox & Co (as before)

ABOVE: Bring a bit of summer into the gloom with this black nylon plastic-crab embossed umbrella, £18, from Octopus (0171-589 7715) or introduce a happy note into your day with the musical umbrella, £14.95, from Instrumental Furniture (0171-328 0058)

0141, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office

هكذا من الجميل

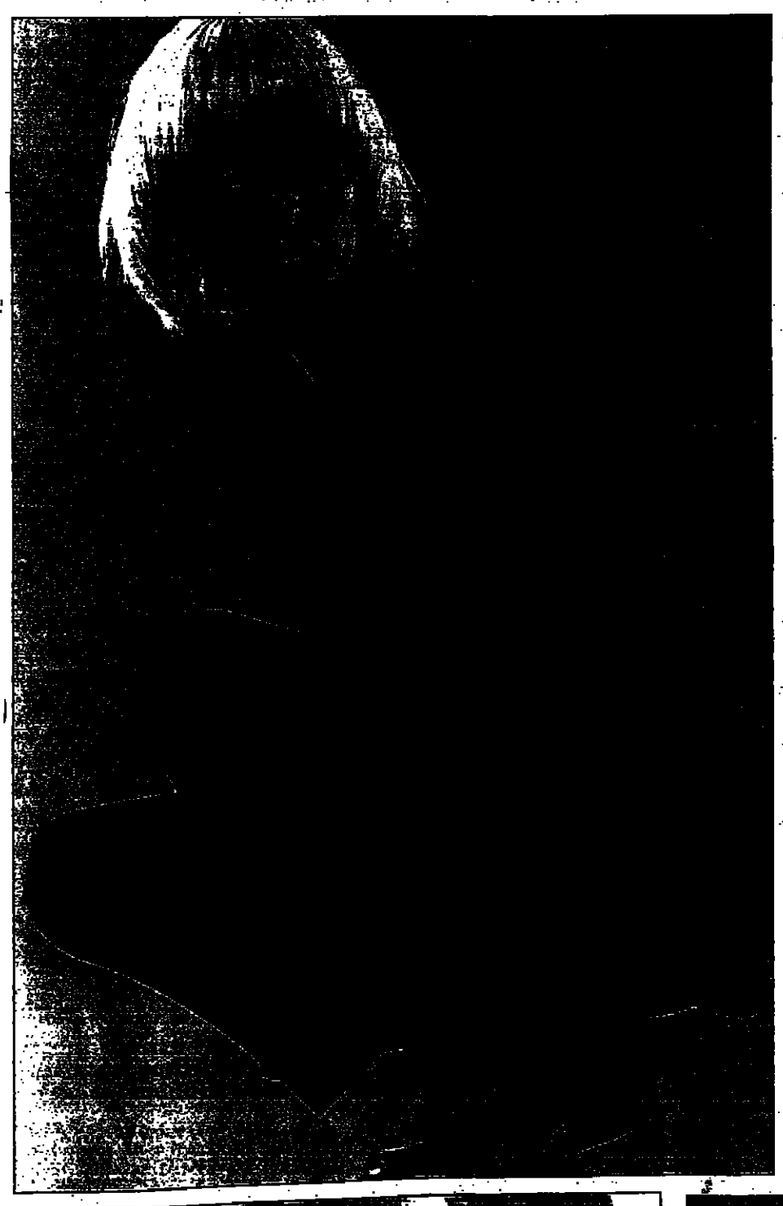






Black suit, £490, MaxMara, 23 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-287 3434). Black loafers, £40, French Connection, as above

# It really suits you, madam



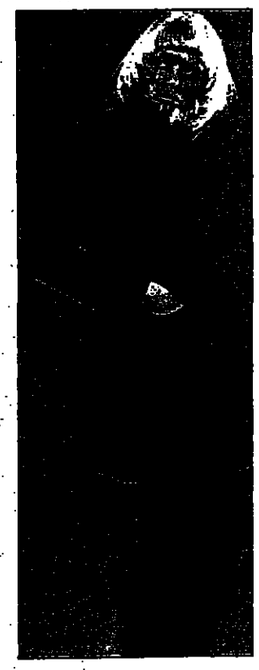
Margaret Thatcher wore them only once in office, the Queen never wears them, and they are banned in the Royal Enclosure at Ascot. We may be living in an era where racism and sexism are frowned on, but in some circles women wearing trousers is still taboo.

The good news is that these circles are diminishing — the last case of a woman being sacked for this sartorial error was in 1993, and the Equal Opportunities Commission says that fewer than 1 per cent of complaints are from women "discouraged" from wearing them.

Trouser suits are not only comfortable and practical, but smart too. Thanks to the new ranges, we can now mix and match according to our moods — or our meetings. On Monday it could be the M&S pinstriped Mafia jacket for lunch with the boss: Tuesday the rockabilly hipster-pantsuit from Agnès B for the Soho sojourn: Wednesday the three-piece for the dreaded bank manager. And you can dress 'em up, or dress 'em down. If you are a woman who wears the trousers, anything goes.

LISA GRAINGER

Photographs by **Anna Stevenson.** Hair by **James Mooney** at Bramwell & O'Donnell for Daniel Hersheson (0171-434 1747). Make-up by **Charlotte Day** at Rockit using Make-up Forever. Styling by **Amandip Uppal.** Model: **Eva**



**ABOVE:** Charcoal wool jacket, £45; trousers, £95, Coppernob, House of Fraser and John Lewis branches nationwide (0171-436 3600). Loafers, £40, French Connection, as above

**LEFT:** Pinstripe jacket, £390; matching trousers, £220, Louise Kennedy, Liberty, W1; Fortnum & Mason, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-734 1234)



## THREE OF A KIND

**To dress up a simple suit or turn it into something warmer and shaggier, drape a piece of fake fur around the collar. LG**

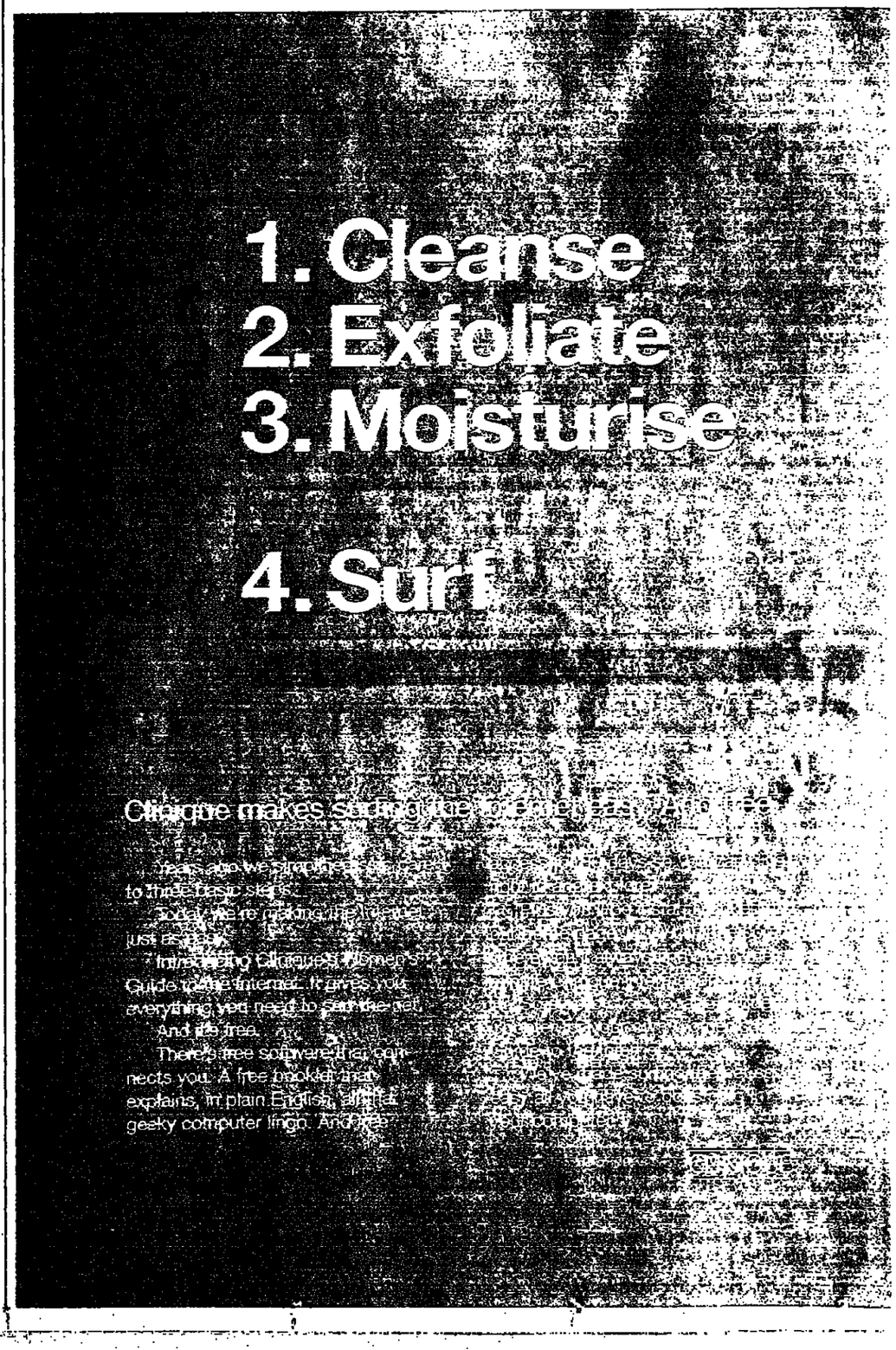
Beige fake-fur collar, £14.99, Oasis, 222 Regent Street, W1 (01865 881986)

Dark brown sheepskin collar, £99, Karl Donoghue, Harvey Nichols, SW1 (0171-584 0011)

Dark blue fake fur collar, £17.99, Accessorize, 123 Kensington High Street, W8 (0171-313 3031)



Wool jacket, £245; matching trousers, £109, Agnès B (0171-379 1992). Lilac stretch shirt, £50, French Connection, as above



RICHARD FAULKS



Michael Binyon starts the day the Great Western Pullman way, with Lee Giffard, the purser, serving a "magnificently overwhelming" cooked breakfast on the London-Bristol route

# Dining in the whistle-stop café

Has privatisation of the railways improved the food in restaurant cars? **Michael Binyon** eats to the beat and gives his verdict

*In the grand old days of* steam and crack expresses railway companies competed to serve the finest wines and fullest *meals in their dining cars.* The heavy luxury of starched linen, fine silver and monogrammed crockery was part of any journey that took seven or *eight hours to complete.*

Those days are gone. For 50 years, British Rail attempted to keep up the old traditions. But the cutlery became scuffed, *the tablecloths ragged and* the kippers eventually disappeared, even from the *Brighton Belle.*

In the week in which the *chief of the British Railways* Board said that the privatised railways' overall performance was as bad as BR days, the way should be open again for *railway cuisine to make its* mark. Food has long disappeared from suburban lines, and on the medium-haul routes the buffet and the *trolley have replaced the sit*-down service. But the great trunk routes still find a market for diners.

Sampling the six main res*taurant routes last week, I was* struck by the extraordinary variation: in ambience, quality and price.

I set off first for Ipswich. *Anglia, which has taken over* this franchise, retains the old InterCity restaurant car and has done little to rebrand it. The faded pink plush seats, *linen tablecloths, plain cutlery* and white china had a worn look to them. Coffee came round immediately: it was, alas, stewed and tasteless.

*Breakfast was the tradition*al BR sizzler — good and filling but not inspiring. The Corn Flakes were crispy, the toast (white and brown) fresh, *and the fried tomatoes burst*ing out of their skins. But the bacon was tired and the triangle of fried bread very greasy. It seemed like any *standard breakfast anywhere.* But by the time I got off at Ipswich I was well-lined for a day's business at the cost of £12.95. After returning to London, I then set out on one of the great expresses from *King's Cross to Doncaster.* The Great North Eastern Railway is nothing if not stylish. The coaches have been repainted a shimmering dark *blue, and the interiors refur*bished in pale grey. The restaurant car was bright and inviting, with smart red paper napkins, new monogrammed *cutlery, tall wine glasses bear*ing the company crest, and plates ringed in the company's dark blue livery.

The menus and wine list *were spectacular: photo*graphs of the northeast coast and a country church, and a good selection of main dishes — smoked haddock fishcake, *chicken salad, fillet steak,* ploughman's lunch or sausage and mash — and wines that included a red from Lebanon and several nice Italians. My *leek and potato soup,* garnished with cream and bacon, was tasty.

The steak, however, was rather dry, and the braised *whole carrots, soaked in vege*table stock, looked wrinkled, but tasted good. The lemon tart, dusted with icing sugar, was dull and could have come *from a supermarket packet.*

The cost was a shock: even allowing for the extravagance of half a bottle of valpolicella, £32 seemed a lot to pay.

Taking a local train to Sheffield, I then ate probably the worst meal I have ever had *on a train. This should make* Midland Mainline seriously reconsider its new "Premium Class". The carriage had no atmosphere, and the hostess *none of the professionalism of* proper dining-car attendants.

The tomato soup was lukewarm, clearly not long enough in the microwave. The vegetable lasagne was even worse: three slabs of grey pasta with a glutinous yellow jelly, presumably cheese, spread over it. Again, it was *lukewarm, and so I sent it* back, but the hostess, with devastating honesty, said it was hard to keep things hot coming back through the carriage. The cheese and biscuit platter looked good but the crackers were so stale that I could fold them in half without them breaking. After an *hour's wait, the businessman* across from me received his food ten minutes before we arrived at St Pancras.

Next day dawned magnifi*cently, however, with almost* the best breakfast I have eaten — anywhere. The Red Dragon, Great Western's Pullman to Bristol Parkway, could hardly be faulted. The car was wonderfully decorated, a folded newspaper was beside each seat and the pink tablecloths, bottled water and small *vases of flowers — admittedly* artificial — added atmosphere.



*Old thymes: a third-class dining car in 1900*

On the the menu was fruit compote, fresh *juice* and cereals. The cooked dishes were magnificently overwhelming: black pudding, sausage, crispy bacon, fried *bread, fried tomatoes, fried* eggs, sauté potatoes — or, fresh kippers or smoked salmon and scrambled eggs.

Lee Giffard, the purser, and *his stewards had learnt all the* arts of courteous, efficient service, were clearly proud of *this premier line and were* looking forward to the change, *next month, to fresh starched* linen tablecloths. This is how breakfast should be: no wonder it is such a popular meal.

Virgin's Cross Country ser*vice offers a restaurant lunch* on three named trains. Alas, on the Virgin train I picked up at Bristol most of the food had been shunted into a siding. There were no menus, and only a chicken korma (poor) and a couple of other dishes available. The cheerful Scottish steward brought some *nice house beaujolais: but* Virgin needs to smarten its standards.

It was Virgin again from Birmingham, but here things *were far better. The last full* evening meal is ridiculously early, and I had to begin on my excellent Stilton and bacon salad at 4.45pm. But it was *good and fresh, and the roast* fillet of cod on a bed of braised fennel with leek was excellent, helped by a tasty lobster sauce and sauté potatoes. The house *white was good value, and the* dessert — an upside down puff pastry tart with caramelised apples served with *crème anglaise* — delicious. Coffee *was fresh,* the complimentary chocolate a nice touch and the service friendly. Like breakfast that day, the meal, at £26.50, could hardly be faulted.

*Train meals are always* going to be pricer than stationary restaurants. If you are travelling far enough — to Penzance or Glasgow — you *can still eat well. If you want* real value for money, go for breakfast. But unless you want to leave the last train groaning under the weight of *food, do not attempt all three* meals in one day.

## HOW THE **RESTAURANT FARE** COMPARED

**Great Western**

Pullman services, smart coaches and high staff morale. *Dining* ambience excellent, service outstanding, food good and value excellent. ★★★★★

**Anglia**

Franchise for most of East Anglia, except London suburbs. Dining ambience tired, service good, food moderate, value good. ★★★

**Midland Mainline**

Three classes, with *complimentary food* included in premium ticket. Dining ambience dull, service poor, food dreadful, value poor. ★

**Virgin trains**

Crosscountry: only three *trains from the West* Country to Scotland have restaurant cars. Dining ambience dull, food poor, value moderate. ★★

**Virgin trains**

West Coast: to Scotland. Needs rennovation. No late restaurant services. Dining ambience good, service good, food excellent and value good. ★★★★

**GNER**

Scotland route largely used by businessmen. Several food services. Dining ambience fresh, service good, food good, value moderate. ★★★★

# Drink



## Jane MacQuitty

The mysteries of chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon – 'the two great grapes' – are worth savouring

**WINE COURSE** PART 2

Here are the champions. Like the classic flavours of vanilla and chocolate, chardonnay and cabernet sauvignon are the two grapes that drinkers will never grow bored with. For all the ABC, or "anything but chardonnay", claptrap you read elsewhere, there is no lack of muscle or staying power in the chardonnay or *cabernet camps.*

**Chardonnay** is top of the league because it is an easy, forgiving grape to grow and vinify, and it yields well. Also, *lacking any great aromatic* personality of its own — compared to the refined floral, lime and steel elegance of riesling, or the aggressive cat's *pee, grass-cuttings and aspar*agus odours of sauvignon — chardonnay allows the wine-maker to imprint his own personality.

*At best, northern French* chardonnay brings a gentle, fresh green apple-like fruit that, in the standard unoaked mâcon and chablis from *caring producers,* delivers a fine, leafy, verdant quality, the former finishing on a *tell-tale milky* note and the latter with a steely edge.



With age, the cooler-climate *chardonnays* acquire a cabbagey richness, with buttery, nutty overtones. Coupled with oak, cheap chardonnay creates a popular style whose spicy, nutty *finesse we show no signs of* tiring of. Top Côte d'Or chardonnays deliver more heftier oak imparts bolder, toasty oak flavours and richer *glacé-fruit character.*

This winter's cheapest, best oaked northern French chardonnay — full of smoky, nutty, lemony style — is the 1996 Jean *Balmont Chardonnay* from the Loire. It costs £3.49 a bottle from Majestic Wine Warehouses — and, until Monday, if you buy two the price drops to £2.99 each.

Relish the other end of the French spectrum: a fine Mâconnais white, with only 10 per cent oak — the glorious 1996 Saint Véran Domaine des Deux Roches, whose creamy, yet nutty fruit has a rich, green vegetal finish (Asda £6.49; Thresher, Wine Rack and Bottoms *Up £8.99).*

New World chardonnays, by comparison, are bigger and bolder, with more vanilla-redolent oak, alcohol and fruit. *If you feel the full New World* chardonnay experience will overwhelm you, try one without, Pam Dunsford's 1997 Chapel Hill Unwooded Char*donnay, with its fine, lemon*meringue-pie-styled fruit (Tesco and the Australian Wine Club, 0800 856 2004, £7.99).

*Kiwi chardonnay is more in* the European mould, because of the cool climate. The 1996 Montana Reserve Marlborough Barrique Fermented *Chardonnay has a herby base* with sweet, spicy, hazelnut-scented oak (Pullers and Morrisons £7.49).

**Cabernet sauvignon** is *nearly always blended with* merlot or cabernet franc in France and filled out with shiraz in Australia, and is even more well-travelled a grape *than chardonnay. Coincident*ally, it is as robust and easy to grow, though not as prolific.

Yet, wherever it plays, its distinctive blackcurranty *character shines through,* even though it needs another variety to lighten its dark, austere, tannic form. It also has a grassy, herbaceous qual*ity, reminiscent of* green pepper or green olive.

Cheap, seductively ripe, cassis-*sweet and glycer*ine-rich Chilean cabernet is dominating the field now, not cheap *claret.*

My vote goes to the 1996 La Palma Cabernet, whose grassy red and *black fruit is a* snip at Oddbins, £3.99.

Bordeaux's riposte has to be an *aged claret that, when given* almost two years of oak ageing as a newborn, develops some gorgeous smoky, cedary scents. Try the 1995 Château *Malescasse, a cabernet sau*vignon-dominated claret from the Haut Médoc (Victoria Wine Cellars, £11.99).

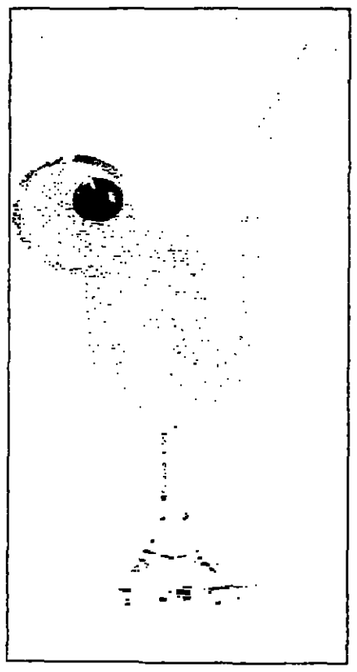
Again, New World cabernets are bigger, bolder and jammier than their European equivalents. Helpfully, for those who *like to spot bottles blind,* California cabernet reeks of ripe, minty fruit. Curiously, the Australian versions all have eucalyptus well to the fore, along with a burly, peppery quality from the shiraz with which they are often blended. Try the mint-redolent 1993 Santa Cruz Mountain Cabernet from Ridge, with lots of silky, spicebox fruit (Majestic Wine Warehouses, £12.99).

The cheaper, eucalyptus-scented Australian alternative is the carefully created 1996 Hardys Nottage Hill Cabernet Sauvignon-Shiraz (Somerfield, Sainsbury's, Oddbins and Safeway, £4.99).

**Next week:** premier league whites.

## THE DRINKS THAT TIME FORGOT

### Part 2: The St Clements



IN AN additive-free world of cranberry juice, organic ginseng and New Labour, the St Clements, much like the nursery rhyme from which its name derives, lies half remembered, and with an uncertain future. In fact, the sweet innocence of combining orange juice and bitter lemon in equal proportions — once a Sunday favourite at the golf club — would make for more than just a forgotten drink: it should stand as a poetic memento of a lost world. The St Clements's roots lie in the little England that existed before lunch was for wimps. It was enjoyed on croquet lawns and long summer *days spent watching our boys at Lord's.* Those who partook were generally Mr and Mrs Backbone-of-the-Empire: the vicar, the major, the youngsters at country clubs throughout the gin-and-Jag belt, perhaps *even Betjeman's "hockey-playing, cycling* girl, the thoroughly to-me-liking girl".

Does anyone still drink St Clements? Its sparkling innocence and underlying bitterness are said to appeal to Lord Archer of *"Weston-super-Mayor" and, perhaps, to old*timers at Wimbledon. Should it be relaunched as "St Clements MAX — the young drink for the young generation"? I think not.

KATE STRONACH

HENRY HARRIS'S **CHEAT OF THE WEEK**

## Going wild with porcini



WE CHEFS never seem to tire of wild mushrooms. For me it is their an appealing assertiveness that I find so appealing. And, despite their cost, a little can go a long way, particularly if you are using them in dried form.

Wild mushrooms have a deeply earthy smell and flavour that I always find enticing. I get deliveries every day at the restaurant and often fry them until golden in a little olive oil, with garlic and parsley, to make a wonderful garnish for most meat and fish dishes.

At home, I am in the same position as most cooks, with *little access to fresh wild* mushrooms. So I keep a few of the dried varieties in my store cupboard; morels and ceps/porcini — morels for their intense smokiness, and ceps for their wonderful meatiness. Ceps are also ideal to use in dishes that are free of meat or fish, because their strong flavour imparts real substance to a dish. Mixing a few dried porcini with fresh flat mushrooms goes a long way to solving the scarcity problem.

A word of caution to those of you attempting to pick your own wild mushrooms: simply arming yourself with an illustrated mushroom guide could be fatal. You need someone on hand who knows exactly what to look for.

For now, pour yourself a glass of red wine and sit back and savour this rich and powerful winter soup.

**Cream of porcini soup**
*Serves 4*

- 1 knob of butter
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- *500g flat mushrooms,* finely sliced
- 50g dried porcini (soaked)
- 4 cloves of garlic, bashed with the side of a knife
- 1 glass of white wine
- 1 litre fresh chicken stock or tinned consommé diluted 50:50 with water
- 100ml crème fraîche

Soak the porcini in hot water until soft. Melt the butter in a large saucepan and add the next four ingredients. Turn down heat and cover. Cook gently for 20min. Add the white wine and reduce by half. Add the stock and bring to the boil. Simmer for 10min and add the cream. Remove from heat. Liquidise in small batches and return to a clean pan. Season with salt and pepper.

● *The author is chef at Harvey Nichols' Fifth Floor Restaurant in Knightsbridge, London.*

## STAR BUYS OF THE WEEK

**1996 New Zealand Gisborne Sauvignon Blanc, Tesco £4.49**

SNAP OUT of the January blues with this enticingly crisp, grassy wine from a renowned spot on the North Island famous for its aromatic whites.



Gisborne sauvignon blancs have more fat on them than the top, sunny Marlborough South Island region, which explains why this classic gooseberry-laden white slips down so pleasantly with fishy starters.

**1996 Domaine de la Jalousie Late Harvest, Tesco £4.99**

AS WELL as its own-label Kiwi wines, Tesco has long stocked some gorgeous Gascons from Yves Grassa, one of the region's biggest producers. This superb pudding wine is the best French sweet white for under a fiver I've tasted in months — lots of glorious, grapey, waxy, citrussy fruit with a superb grapefruit zest finish. Great with winter's light, fruity puddings.



**BEST OF THE REST**

● Head for Fullers, where, until Feb 23, cut-price champagne is on offer, including £5 each off 1989 Pommery, 1990 Taittinger and 1989 Roederer, down to £20.99, £23.99 and £33.50 respectively. Other bargains here include £1.50 off Louis Jadot's gamey 1993 Marsannay for £9.49, and £2 off the mature 1987 Latricières-Chambertin Camus Grand Cru (£9.99). The 1994 Barrel Fermented Chardonnay de Limoux is down £1 to £5.99.

ohn, telephone 0151-949 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998.

# The Times Cook

## Travel broadens more than just the mind – ingredients from overseas give a fresh twist to your cooking



Frances Bissell

When pressed, I usually put down my hobbies as cooking and travelling. A closer examination reveals that this includes a tendency to acquire and collect ingredients is every bit as absorbing as other collecting hobbies.

Food shops, other people's kitchens, markets and hardware stores are my sources. The latter are important, because I also like to know how people prepare and cook their food. In Oslo, for example, I found marvellous implements for scaling and cleaning fish and for slicing cheese; at Santiago de Compostela in northern Spain I discovered sharp knives for cutting the dense, coarse Galician maize bread; and cooking pots from Malta, Ireland, Portugal, France and Morocco are stacked on my kitchen shelves. A set of bamboo soup steamers from Hong Kong are in the back of a cupboard.

*Ras el Hannout* from Morocco, Kuwaiti fish spice, mastic from Turkey, vanilla pods, nutmeg and cloves from Sri Lanka, sachets for "pork ribs tea" from Singapore, *epazote* from Mexico, the same herb called *guascos* from Colombia, and Texas ground green chilli powder, all add to a mélange of fragrances in my store cupboard which I have brought home from travels abroad.

When I first started writing about food, supermarkets did not sell fresh basil: I used to bring it back in bunches from Liguria to make into pesto. It was even difficult to find crème fraiche and unsalted French butter then. I used to dry tomatoes in the sun on the flat roof of my parents' house in Gozo. Now I can find many ingredients here that I used to carry home from my travels. We can even buy the authentic *balsamico tradizionale di Modena* (Oil Merchant, 0181-740 1335) certified by the Consorzio, without having to travel all the way to Emilia Romagna.

But it is still a great thrill to be given home-made produce that will never be available in the high-street supermarket, whether it is my mother's lemon curd or Miguel Valdespino's ancient sherry vinegar from the family cask.

Some years ago, on the other hand, it was suggested that I was being elitist writing about hard-to-find ingredients — in that particular case, wild boar. It might have seemed so at the time, but now wild boar is available by mail order, as, indeed, is kangaroo, alligator and ostrich, unimaginable a few years ago — and wild boar sausages are to be found in the supermarkets.

Investigating ingredients abroad also leads to new ways of using familiar ingredients. At this time of year, Seville oranges are sent to Britain for marmalade-making. But in Andalucia I discovered that they are used in savoury dishes, as we might use lemons. I have, in fact, substituted Seville oranges for lemons and made an exquisite orange curd. The juice makes an excellent vinaigrette, or glaze for roast duck or pork loin. I have also used it to glaze small turnips and other root vegetables, and as juice and zest in a fine mayonnaise.

Try this simple recipe for skate using these fragrant, sharp Seville oranges. Fish fillets other than skate can be used, and they, too, can be baked in the oven if you prefer that to frying. Allow 12 to 15 minutes in a 180C, gas mark 4 oven.

**Skate with olive oil and orange**
*Serves 4*

- 1kg skate wings, in four pieces
- 4tbsp extra virgin olive oil, plus extra for frying
- 1 or 2 Seville oranges
- Sea salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 4tbsp flour

Wipe the fish with kitchen paper. Brush with olive oil, grate on a little zest and brush with orange juice. Mix the seasoning and flour and



coat the fish lightly. Fry the fish in olive oil, then arrange on heated dinner plates. Garnish with herbs, vegetables or salad leaves, and serve with boiled, steamed or mashed potatoes. Heat the remaining fresh olive oil, mix with orange juice to taste, season, and pour it over the fish at the table.

**Smoked haddock and leek salad with pumpkin seed and sherry vinaigrette**
*Serves 4*

- 12-16 baby leeks, or 4 large ones
- 400g undyed smoked haddock fillet
- 1tbsp aged sherry vinegar
- 1tsp molasses, dark muscovado or black treacle
- 1-2tsp Japanese soy sauce
- 4-5tbsp pumpkin seed oil
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 2-3tbsp lightly toasted pumpkin seeds

Trim the leeks and rinse well. Split the baby ones down the middle. Cut the large ones into shreds and steam or boil them until tender. Drain and rinse under cold water. Divide the leeks among four serving plates.

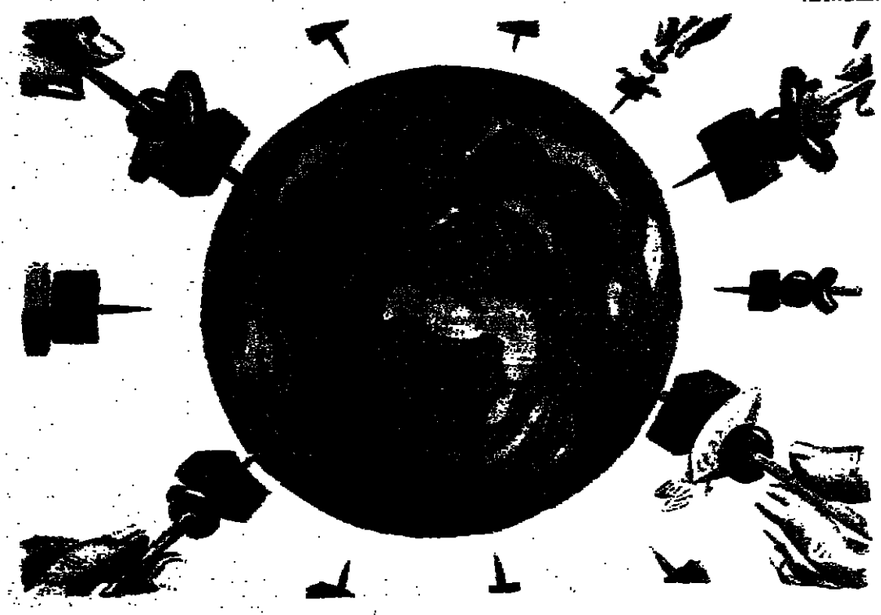
Poach or steam the fish and place on top of the leeks. Whisk together the ingredients for the dressing. Pour this around the fish, and scatter the seeds on top before serving.

**Calves liver with balsamico on potato and garlic fonduta**
*Serves 4*

- 750g potatoes for mashing
- 1 head of garlic
- 100ml boiling milk
- 150g Fontina cheese
- 50-75g Parmesan, grated
- 1tbsp each olive oil and unsalted butter
- *400-500g organic calves liver, in four pieces*
- 2tbsp flour mixed with ½tsp each salt and freshly ground black pepper.
- 2-3tbsp *balsamico tradizionale di Modena*

Peel the potatoes and garlic cloves. Boil and mash to a smooth purée with the milk. Beat in the cheeses and keep the fonduta warm by standing the pan in a roasting tin of hot water on top of the stove. Meanwhile, heat the oil and butter in a heavy frying pan. Dip the liver in the seasoned flour and fry for a few minutes on each side until done to your liking. Spoon the fonduta on to hot serving plates, place the liver on top and spoon on the *balsamico* mixed with the pan juices. This dish is very good accompanied by a generous bunch of watercress.

ALAN ADLER



HERE IS an exceedingly rich tart, as it should be. You can substitute walnuts, or even hazelnuts or almonds for the pecans, but no low-fat, low-sugar substitutes please. If using almonds, I would leave out the maple syrup and replace it with extra corn syrup or golden syrup, keeping the flavour delicate to complement the almonds.

**Pecan and maple tart**
*Serves at least 6-8*

- 200g plain flour
- 100g unsalted butter, chilled and diced
- Pinch of salt
- 50g caster sugar
- 1 small free-range egg, lightly beaten
- Iced water

Filling:

- 75g light muscovado sugar
- 100g unsalted butter
- 150ml pure maple syrup
- 150ml corn syrup or golden syrup
- 4 free-range eggs, lightly beaten
- 1tsp pure vanilla essence
- ¼tsp salt
- 250g shelled pecans

Rub the flour and butter together, and stir in the salt and sugar, and then the egg and enough iced water to bind. Roll out the pastry and line a greased tart tin (20-25cm). Prick the pastry all over, line with greaseproof paper, weigh down with ceramic baking beans (dried beans will do and can be stored and re-used for the same purpose), and



bake blind for 8 to 10min in a preheated oven at 200C, gas mark 6. Remove from the oven, take out the beans and paper, and let the pastry case cool.

Put the sugar, butter and syrups in a saucepan, bring to the boil and cook for about 5min. Remove from the heat and stir in the lightly beaten eggs, vanilla essence, salt and pecans. Pour the mixture into the tart. Bake in the preheated oven at 180C, gas mark 4, for about 30min, or until the filling has just set and the top is lightly browned.

For a short cut, put the contents of a jar of *dulce de leche*, luxury caramel spread, in a bowl. Beat in the eggs and softened butter, then stir in the salt, vanilla and pecans before pouring into the pastry case and baking.

© Frances Bissell 1998

Next week: recipes inspired by great paintings.

THE PERFECT **CHIP**

### Frying the high street at home



■ THE POTATO: allow one large potato per person. To achieve a light, fluffy chip, crisp and golden on the outside, choose a medium-textured potato, firm but floury, such as Desirée, *Maris Piper*, *Maris Peer*, King Edward and Sante. Slice to about 1cm thick, cut into chips, then dry them.

■ THE FAT: duck, goose and chicken fat and beef dripping have their fans. Or, use olive oil, sunflower, groundnut or rapeseed oil. Anonymous vegetable oils are the least appealing. Do not use any fat more than two or three times.

■ FRYING: cook the chips in two stages. Stage one, at approx. 190C for 5min, cooks the chips gently without browning. Stage two, at approx 200C for 2min, gives the chips their characteristic golden crispness. Fry them in *batches, to prevent the temperature of the oil falling too much*, moving the chips around with a heat-proof spatula to ensure even cooking. Drain on paper towels.

Next week: the perfect sponge.

**CONSUMING INTERESTS:** SALAMI

Milano salami is the most popular in Italy, distinguished by its garlic flavouring. It is also remarkable, in some British supermarkets at least, for its ability to remain "not less than 100 per cent meat" while the list of ingredients shows various other bits and bobs, often including skimmed milk powder. Note, too, the high fat and sodium content — though the sodium element is not always declared in the small print. Doctors recommend that we eat no more than 6g of salt a day, equivalent to only 2.4g sodium. So 24 slices of salami would use the whole daily allowance. **ROBIN YOUNG**




**ASDA SALAMI MILANO,** *99p for 80g, 16 slices.*
**Claim:** "Minimum 98 per cent meat".
**Verdict:** some of the remaining 2 per cent is skimmed milk powder; 34 per cent fat. Blurry, fat-dominated appearance. The pack shot looks more like Sainsbury's or Tesco. ★★




**SAINSBURY'S ITALIAN MILANO SALAMI (CITTERIO),** *£1.29 for 70g, 12 slices.*
**Claim:** "Allowed to mature for three months to develop its special flavour."
**Verdict:** a puzzle — "not less than 100 per cent meat", even though it also contains salt, sugar, pepper, preservatives, potassium nitrate, sodium nitrite and garlic. Good appearance (though the picture on the pack shows less fat than the product itself). Distinguished flavour; 32 per cent fat and 1.7g sodium. ★★★




**TESCO ITALIAN SALAMI MILANO,** *£1.25 for 70g, 14 slices.*
**Claim:** "Minimum 98 per cent meat."
**Verdict:** gets its garlic as powder; 31.1 per cent fat. Similar appearance to Sainsbury's. Proved indistinguishable in blind tasting. ★★★



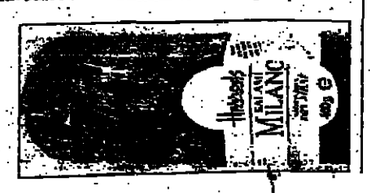

**SAFEWAY AUTHENTIC ITALIAN SALAMI MILANO,** *£1.35 for 70g, 14 slices.*
**Claim:** "Minimum 97 per cent meat."
**Verdict:** 32 per cent fat. Similar to Asda. ★★



**ST MICHAEL LIGHTLY SMOKED PORK SALAMI,** *£1.99 for 90g, 16 slices.*
**Claim:** "traditional German".
**Verdict:** the nearest M&S could offer to a Salami Milano. Again: how can anything be "not less than 100 per cent meat", while including salt, dextrose, spices, antioxidant, garlic and preservative? (I do not pretend to know.) 33 per cent fat, 1.8 per cent sodium. Very noticeable smoky flavour. ★



**WAITROSE MILANO SALAMI,** *£1.29 for 70g, 12 slices.*
**Claim:** "Produced sliced and packed by Fiorucci."
**Verdict:** this, too, claims "not less than 100 per cent meat", despite other non-meat ingredients. 30 per cent fat and 1.5 per cent sodium. Similar to Safeway. ★★



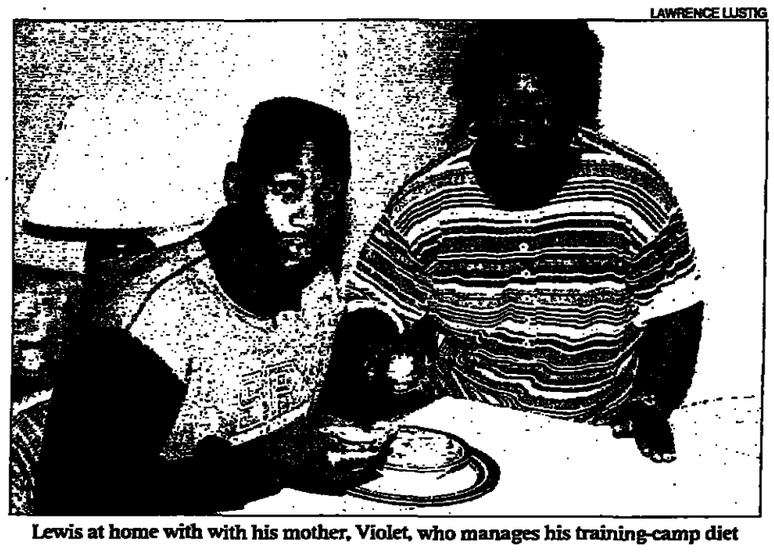

**HARRODS SALAMI MILANO,** *a whole 20cm-long sausage, £6.79 for 400g during the sale, then £7.99.*
**Claim:** again, "Not less than 100 per cent meat".
**Verdict:** includes skimmed milk solids and about eight other ingredients. Even using a a home-slicer, it is difficult to achieve the neatness of the pre-sliced pack, but much more satisfactory. ★★★★

# Boxer's mum is a knockout cook

**HOME** COOKING

### The food that keeps world beater Lennox Lewis fighting fit. Sri Sen reports

LAWRENCE LUSTIG



Lewis at home with with his mother, Violet, who manages his training-camp diet

Those who follow heavyweight boxing have long been used to seeing overweight men shuffling round the ring. So ringsiders are amazed that Lennox Lewis, the WBC champion, does not have a stomach that turns his waistband inside-out. Thanks to his mother's cooking, 17½-stone Lewis does not carry an ounce of extra fat on his 6ft 7in frame.

His mother, Violet, is in charge of the catering for the 18 weeks of the year that 32-year-old Lewis trains for his bouts. It is an unusual arrangement: few heavyweights rely on mother-love to get into shape for a fight.

Mrs Lewis has been cooking for her son since 1992, when the Olympic gold medalist was well into his professional career, having won all his 19 contests and the British and European titles.

"I wanted to help, because he would give me the world if I asked for it," she says. "Also, it is for myself. I am not one for sitting around doing nothing. Cooking for Lennox and his team at training camp — four people and myself — keeps me busy."



Lean machine: young Lewis

Her desire to care for her son goes back to the time she had to leave Lewis with aunts and uncles in the East End of London while she looked for work in America and Canada to give him a proper home. After a five years apart, they were reunited at Kitchener in Ontario, when Lewis was 12.

She says that Lewis was always a kind, loving and respectful boy. "When he came home from school it was his job to lay the table for the two of us. I taught him young to eat his food at the dinner table, not around the television set. He never gave trouble at mealtimes, because before I cooked his food I always asked him what he wanted and made that. He loved macaroni cheese, peanut butter, and strawberry jelly sandwiches."

But now, it's no more mum's apple pies and home fries for Lewis; just good, wholesome, low-fat food. "I never fry anything," Mrs Lewis says. "I always bake or grill, without any fat. There are always lots of vegetables and salad. I don't cook much West Indian food; sometimes rice and peas."

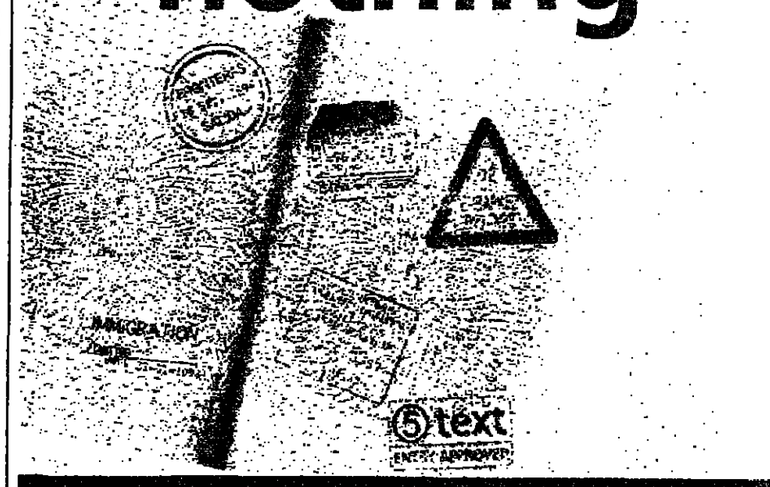
Because Lewis is one of the hardest punchers in the division — he has won all but one of his 33 contests, 28 of them inside the distance, and has earned about £30 million — his diet destroys the myth that muscle-men must devour huge meals to remain competitive. "He is a good eater, but not a big eater," Mrs Lewis says. He doesn't like red meat; prefers fish or chicken. For breakfast he will have a pancake with maple syrup and fruit, or two eggs poached or scrambled. For lunch, tuna salad on a bagel or a bowl of soup with some vegetables. Dinner is at six: I cook snapper or catfish, perhaps chicken breasts, which are marinated overnight in teriyaki sauce or soy sauce, garlic, pepper and salt. I remove the skin and fat and bake the chicken in foil. I serve boiled broccoli, snow peas, carrots and turnips with the meal.

"Lennox likes rice pudding with fruit and custard. Later, he might have a cup of tea and crackers. He doesn't drink alcohol, mostly water, fruit juice or carrot juice.

"On the day of the fight, he has pasta, with fish or chicken, about four hours before he goes into the ring.

"After the fight I go back to Toronto and Lennox goes off to Jamaica, Miami or Britain, where he has a housekeeper in Hadley Wood and where he loves to have fish and chips . . . and he never fails to ring me every other week."

Book nothing



until you check out the best travel bargains on ⑤text

The freshest, fastest text service on television is only on Channel 5

## NORTH OF THE THAMES

**BARGAINS.** Repossessions and Reduced for quick sale props. Capital Property Link. 7 days 10am-10pm 0171 288 0288.

**BAYSWATER W2** Studio flat in pser'd pbb. 36yrs lse. £45,000. 0171 229 9262 Bruton & Co.

**BRYANSTON MANSIONS, W1.** Spacious 2 bed, 2 recep, study, 2 bath flor. porter, lift, ah. P/H £250,000. 0171 724 9919

**CROUCH END,** spacious immac designed 2 dbl bed 1st flr Edwardian conversion (in sought after road) Lge bright recept room, new kitchen & bathroom, wood floors in living room & bedroom. Decorated to v. high standard. £140K. 0181 341 9681 - 0956 308640.

**GLOUCESTER St. SW1** 1st & 2nd flr 2 bed mais, requires refurb, recep, din, kit, balc. terr, bath, silk. Lse till 2091. £295,000. Best Gapp 0171 730 9253.

**HIGHBURY TERRACE N5** Completely refurbished 4 bed, 3 bath, beautifully appointed family home. Offers in Region £475,000 For details & appointment to View 0171 721 8633

**LANCASTER MEWS W2** 3 bed, 2 recp, mews hse, over 3 flrs + gge. F/H £495,000. Paisley Brewer 0171 371 4171.

**LITTLE VENICE** Spac 4 bed mews flr. Wood flrs. Gyrtrect plcy, cls canal, pk cncl, pvt gde. £299,950. Tel: 0831 611946

**MAIDA VALE W9** Lge 2 bed ground floor maisonn block ppt. with direct access to gde. Excellent condition. £280,000. 0171 2890224

**MAIDA VALE** (Shiffendand Ave) 2 bed first flr conversion. High ceilings, wood flrs, excel condition. £145,000 0171 586 0198.

**MARYLEBONE, NW1.** Stunning 2 bed 2 bathroom split level conversion with balcony close to Regents Park. £239,995. Sandfords 0171 723 9988

**St JOHNS WOOD** lovely 2 bed maisonette, recently architect refurb, own entrance, 110 yr lease. £179,000. 586 1556.

**ST JOHN'S WOOD, NW8.** 2 bed 1st flr flat + study. Exc poss-ial, near High St. £169,995. Sandfords 0171 723 9988

**WESTBOURNE TERR, W2.** 2 bed 1st & 2nd fl mais, 2 balcs kit, bath £235,000. 0171 724 9919

**CLEVELAND SQ.W.2**
**Perfect Home**
**for your New Year bonus!**
Stunning 1st floor apartment (1147 sq feet/106.5 m2) minutes from Hyde Park with view over communal gardens. Massive, bright living room 13' foor ceiling & six French windows leading to two balconies. Two bedrms. Beautifully renovated with wooden & slate floors, granite work, parkers etc. *Ready to move in. 112 yr lease* Best offer over £535,000 secures. Tel: (0370) 211955

**W8 MAIDA VALE** 2 bed, 1st flr, ideal investment. £120,000. 0171 229 9262 Bruton & Co.

**W2 MEWS HOUSE** Refurb 2 bed, garage, roof terr. £395,000. 0171 229 9262 Bruton & Co.

**W2 Stunning** 2 bed apt in newly refurb period building. £149,950 0171 221 9044

**WYNDHAM MEWS, W1.** Desirable 2/3 bedroom mews house recently refurbished (many w/ables) F/H £325,000 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

## SOUTH OF THE THAMES

**CLAPHAM** Nth side. Unique period Cottage. 3 recep, 2 dble beds. Small secluded gdn. P/H. £269,000. 0171 4225835

**SW18,** refurb, main, 2 dble beds, Two recep, views. £149,950. Wattingtons 0171 924 4400.

**EARLSFIELD SW18**
Spacious Victorian end of terrace 4 bedroom house, recently refurbished with period features, double reception rm, large eat-in-kitchen, conservatory style family room leading to sunny well stocked garden. 3 mins BR/10 mins Waterloo.
**£250,000 FHLD.**
**Tel: 0181 947 7253.**

## BELGRAVIA

**FAREBROTHER**
**CHARTERED SURVEYORS**
FLATS FOR SALE IN LOWNDES SQUARE, LONDON, SW1

Raised Grd floor, 3 beds, dble recep, custom built kit, bath, shwr room, porterage. Excellent condition.
*£895,000*
*Leasehold. Subject to Contract*

1st floor, 2 beds, o/s bath, shwr room, kit, porterage. Ideal rental investment or London base.
*£430,000*
*Leasehold. Subject to Contract*

4th Floor, 2 beds, o/s bath, shwr room, kit, porterage. Ideal rental investment or London base.
*£430,000*
*Leasehold. Subject to Contract.*

SOLE AGENTS:
**FAREBROTHER**
**0171-405 4545**
1 Pemberton Row, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 3ET
*CONTACT: ALASTAIR ILES*

## BELGRAVIA

**SOURIS ST, SW1.** 1st flr apt in small pbb. Recep, kit, 2 beds, bath, balc. Lse to 2065. £250k Best Gapp 0171 730 9253

**EATON SQUARE** Superb Maisonette in this prestigious square. Recep, fr kitchen, 2 beds, 2 baths, large prt gardens. £900pw or for sale at £395,000. Tel: 0171 4607173 or 0468 357025

**GERALD RD, SW1.** Family house, recep, dining, kitch/fitted un, study, 4 beds, 3 bath, shower rm, cloakrm, garden, terrace. Lease to 2040. £925,000. Best Gapp. 0171 730 9253

## CITY & WEST END

**BLOOMSBURY WC1.** 3 bed, 2 bath 2nd floor flat in new conv. £225,000. Hurford Salvi Carr 0171 280 1012.

**CITY EC1** 2 Dbl bed split level flat in new crtyard conversion. £188,000 DIZ 0171 406 2738

**187 PORTLAND ST W1** Reb 2 bed period conversion apartment. £164,950 0171 221 9044

**SHOREDITCH** 1 bed flat, 1st and 2nd floors, conv. 719 sqft. £110,000. Hurford Salvi Carr 0171 280 1012.

**WEST 2,** Bayswater 2 bedroom flat, newly refurbished, investment property seller will pay deposit and legal costs. £159,995. Tel: 0181 289 6167 or 0966 662381

**CADOGAN GARDENS SW3**
Light, spacious, elegant, 3/4 floor mansion. Large sitting room, dining room, FF kitchen/breakfast room, 3/4 beds, dressing room, 2 baths, guest WC, sunny SW facing roof terrace, lift. Resident caretaker. Head lease 6 44 year lease £850,000. Contact owner 0171 589 9023. No Agents.

## CITY DOCKLANDS & EAST

**CITY,** 1 bed apartment with allocated parking space, gas heating. £115,000 L/hold. 0171 481 3606.

**DOCKLANDS,** overlooking Thames 3 bedroom apartment, balcony, secure parking space. £260,000 L/hold 0171 481 3606

**DOCKLANDS,** 2 Bed apartment overlooking Thames, parking space. £144,995 L/hold. 0171 481 3606.

**LIMEHOUSE** Stunning 2 dbl bed flat in new development with terr & river views. 999 yr Lse £245,000 DIZ 0171 406 2738

**WAPPING,** 3 newly converted two bed two bath apartments, kitchen style kitchen. £179,995 L/hold 0171 481 2545.

**WAPPING,** 2 bed 2 bath apartment, quiet cloisters, balcony, garage + parking space. £194,995. 0171 481 4088.

**WAPPING,** 2 Bed warehouse conversion, wood floors. £220,000. L/hold. 0171 481 3606.

**TOWER HILL - E1**
Bright & spacious 1 bed flat in Quay 430 development. Near shops Tower Hill tube & City. Private parking space. CCH, video entry, overlooks gardens, no chain. £115,000.
Tel: 0171 7294883 or 0973 166526

## DULWICH

ROY BROOKS
**DULWICH - SE22**
Our Chairman fancies himself as a building Developer and nagged us to find him a saleable Vic. dump in an increasingly fash. patch. Stripping the wallpaper (with most of the plaster) he realised 'there's a bit more to this game', and retired to 'whats left of country' -leaving us to clear up the mess. 3 beds. 2 rec, kit, cell, yardy gde. Clearish good Dulwich schools. Steal at £130k but allow another £50k; less using lawyer & spurs.
0181 299 3021

## HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON

**SUPERB** 2 bed flat, in heart of Canonbury, 17' recep, period features, newly decorated. £249,500. Tel:0171 226 3245

## KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

***AMERICANS/CANADIANS*** buying or renting a London or Country home always save time & money by by retaining the homesearch specialist Savanne 1865. Call free 0800 018 1865

**CHELSEA.** Kings Rd. Large & light flat, 2 double bed, 2 bath, kit, hall, garden, 88yrs, poss. share F/H £220,000 Johnston & Fyvert. Tel:0171 460 0806.

**GORDON PLACE,** kensington W8, Charming bright 1 bed flat with pretty south facing rear overlooking quiet gardens. 5 of F/H. £179,000. Tel:0171 586 1566

**HOMESEARCH LONDON LTD.** Let us search for you. London's No. 1 Specialist Search Company (we'll beat your time). 0171 838 1066. Fax 838 1077

**KENSINGTON W8** 1st. designed 3 bed, 2 bath mais. wood floors. £369,000. Tel:0171 386 5727.

**KEN WEST, W14.** 1 bed flat in p/h block. Pool, gym, s/g parking, great investment. £195,000 STC. 0171 581 7887

**LADBROKE GROVE W10** 3 bed unmod hse & gge. £185,000 Freehold 0171 221 9044

**MANSION MEWS** Rare Sunnyside Dbl Recep 4 beds 2 baths FF kit with sm lge of vast lse yrs *£700,000* FR. 0171 373 0778

**RIVERN SQUARE SW5** A 2nd floor studio flat, sep kit/bath/rm £89,950 0171 289 2779

**QUEENSGATE, SW7,** Unmod apt, 2nd floor, recep 22' x 19', 2 beds, 2 baths, flr. Hft. porter, lease to 2116. £275,000 Best Gapp 0171 730 9253

**W8** 2 mins from Ken. High St, lge 1 bed lgf flat. £40k spent refurb last year, change in circumstances necessitates sale. Features wooden floo throughout, recess/jacuzzi in marble bathroo, Bunham security, lots of inbuilt cupboard space. £189,000. 0171 3765707.

**HOLLYWOOD ROAD, SW10**
Large Terrace House on 4 floors. Open plan. 4 large bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double reception room, family room, kitchen, laundry room, study, storage, cellar, large garden.
Freehold £845,000 private sale. Floorplan available.
TEL DAY: 0831 361467
TEL PM: 0171 736 9174

## KNIGHTSBRIDGE

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE AMBASSADORIAL APARTMENT.**
Located in a private road with 24 hour security and private parking. Double reception room, guest cloak room, dining hall, large eating kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, marble floors. Excellent condition throughout. To let £2,000pw or for sale £1.2M, (shares of free hold) Tel: 0171 4607173 or 0468 357025

## MAYFAIR

**QUEEN ANNE'S GATE SW1 UNMODERNISED FREEHOLD**
Queen Anne town house in the heart of St James', dating back to 1710 and retaining many original features. 3,126 sq. feet + small garden. Full planning consent for restoration. A rare and exciting opportunity to restore a beautiful town house in the heart of period London. Private sale.
OIEO £1.5m.
TEL: 0171 6307500 or 07000 161234

## NOTTING HILL

**ARUNDLE GARDEN W11** 1 dble bed apt, communal garden. £102,000 0171 221 9044

**LADBROKE SQ, W11.** 2 bed unmod flat in best part of square. Ideal renovation. £295,000 STC. 0171 581 7887

## WIMBLEDON

**TWO** bdrm split level maisonette in central location, 2 baths, fitted kitchen, communal gdns. £179,950. 0181 946 6844.

## BRISTOL

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Professional service to find & secure your next property. Bristol 0117 974 1849.

## COTSWOLDS

**CHIPPING NORTON** (Oxfordshire). Detached 3-bed Farmhouse for complete renovation: good sized garden. Auction - 25 Feb. Taylor & Fletcher (Chipping Norton 01608 644344

**WATERMARK** resort - 3 bed lakeside holiday home, 20 mins M4. £59,500. 01684 773530.

## CUMBRIA

**CUMBRIA/BORDERS** property search. Stubbs Relocation Tel (01768) 881618 Fax 881073

## DERBYSHIRE

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** will find & secure your ideal home. 0114 268 2522.

## DEVON

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Prof service for purchasers in Devon & Cornwall 01872 223349.

## EAST ANGLIA

**BEAUTIFUL**
13th century, restored house with Georgian facade. London accessible. Private and parcelled grdns, 15 acres in picturesque stour Valley (Constable country). 5 beds, 5 receptions, unconverted outsage. 12 stables, granary, barns, garaging, other outbuildings, gardens and 6 paddocks. £850,000.
TonyEatson, 01449 735285.

## HERTFORDSHIRE

**NEW** 4 bedroom detached houses from £295,000 in Bushey, Herts. telephone Chalcots Homes on 0181 447 8828 or Sales Office 01923 236 144.

## ISLE OF WIGHT

**COWES** Old Town New 2 bed/2 bath apt on 2nd/3rd flrs. Magnificent Solent views, 5 mins walk to ferry. London 2 hrs. Good investment with swimmer letting potential. OIF at yearling. £145,000. 01983 291919.

## KENT

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** will find & secure your ideal home. Brochure 01732 762080.

## MIDLANDS

**STREETLY**
nr Sutton Coldfield
Detached, modern, 4 bedrms, 1 bedrm, 1 ensuite shower rm, large reception room, fully fitted Beech kitchen, laundry room, cloaks, + WC, Gas CH, BT alarm. Double garage. Beautiful large garden with patios & summerhouse. Nr schools. £159,950. ONO.
Tel: 0171 224 2747.
Fax: 0171 390 8428

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE** Unique opportunity to purchase historic water mill with large stone mill house, cottage, and extensive river frontage with 70 moorings and 5 islands. Excellent leisure development potential. Telephone: 01933 312222

## SURREY

**OXSHOTT**
Detached 4 bedroom, 4 receptions, 3 bathroom family home in sought after cul-de-sac. Easy access to A3 and M25. London 35 mins by train. Large master suite inc dressing area and jacuzzi corner bath. Hardwood double glazing: fitted oak kitchen; CCH; cable; beech wood flooring in hall / lounge / dining & Claygate fireplace. Large secluded south west facing rear garden with full width patio and level lawn. Detached garage and front hard standing for 3 cars. £385,000 (to include carpets & curtains)
Tel: 01372 801695

## SURREY

**SURBITON** 1880 hse, 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception, kitchen, large gdn, in need of renovation or demolition. New offers £350,000. Private sale. 0181 2961117(office) or 0181 9794794(home) or 0850 128889(mobile).

## OXFORDSHIRE

**OXFORD WATERSIDE**
Enjoy the delights of Historic City and Country Living.
The scarcity of land in central Oxford makes Oxford Waterside truly unique, being situated within a mile of the City Centre and Railway Station, with the vibrant village atmosphere of the adjoining highly prestigious Jericho quarter; and at the same time enjoying the benefits of wide open spaces at Port Meadow and the quiet Oxford Canal.
2 bedroom apartments from £118,500
3 bedroom homes from £169,500
4 bedrooms homes with garages from £265,000
OXFORD WATERSIDE
01865 311449.

## SUSSEX

**HASTINGS, DETACHED HOUSE IN ¼ ACRE OF GARDENS.**
Fvt mod. 3 dbl mst, 2 baths (1 en suite), separate WC, lge oak fmt kit/ room, util. dining rm, lounge with bookcases, study, GF cloak rm, games rm (inc. snooker table), gas heating, dble integral garage, lge patio. Rarde Station 10 mins (Charing Cross/Cannon street). OIEO £330,000
01424 754956

## WALES

**ABERMAWDDWY** Detached 3 double bed, all modernised, convenient to all amenities. 5 mins M4 junction 49. £70,000. Tel: 01269 594946

**BALA** Former watermill (5 bedrm) in 2 acre gdn. £180,000. Details 01678 530410.

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** Professional service to find & secure your next property. Cardiff 0845 600 0104.

**USKPORT** rural Monmouthshire, easy reach of M4. 236 acre Dairy/Arable Farm. 7 bed. Listed Georgian Residence. O.I.R.O. £1.525m to include milk quota. Apply Nigel Ward & Co. Tel (01981) 240140.

## WILTSHIRE

**MALMESBURY**
Charming 15th Century previous Coaching Inn.
Town centre location near Abbey. Partly restored and very spacious. Many original features. 5/6 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms. Walled garden. Parking. Great potential. £350,000 ono
Tel:01666 823635

## RETIREMENT HOMES

## YORKSHIRE

**COUNTY HOMESEARCH CO** will find & secure your ideal home in N/W/E Yorks. 01663 690007.

## CARIBBEAN

**ANTIGUA** Lux 3 bed, Furnished Beach villa, pool, £260K. Tel/Fax: 0171 930 0835.

**ANTIGUA**
West Indies
1 acre Paradise resrcsk overlooking Pidgeon Beach & Falmouth Harbour. Luxury 2 bed house designed for gardens facing in the Tropics. Option to purchase 3 prime building plots.
Total package $850,000 US
House only $450,000 US
Tel: 00 1 268 4602714
Fax: 4601614

## RETIREMENT HOMES

**Select Retirement**
... an opportunity to choose your perfect retirement property from a wide range of locations

Bedfordshire ☐ Kent ☐ Shropshire ☐
Berkshire ☐ Lincolnshire ☐ Somerset ☐
Buckinghamshire ☐ Oxfordshire ☐ Surrey ☐
Cambridgeshire ☐ Powys ☐ Sussex ☐
Cheshire ☐ Rutland ☐ Warwickshire ☐
Dorset ☐ Somerset ☐ Wiltshire ☐
Hampshire ☐ Staffordshire ☐ Worcestershire ☐
Herefordshire ☐ Suffolk ☐ West Wales ☐

*Preferred Price Range up to £70,000* ☐ *over £70,000* ☐
I am also interested in retirement property to rent ☐
For further information please tick as appropriate, cut out and return the advert

Name: .....
Address: .....
.....
Tel No: .....

FREEPOST BH1163 Burley, Hants BH24 4BR Tel: 01425 403777

## FRANCE

**ALL FRANCE** Inc. Paris & Alps. 1000s of properties, for details call 0171 266 7240

**ALPINE** Chalet Evian (L Geneva) 15 km. 3 beds 2 bath, spa, fine views. £97,500. 01753 886381

**BUY** without Commission. Find locatre regularly, at your leisure, a selection of real estate corresponding to your desires. Fax (33) 4 67 43 43 19 or write to La Partenaire Languedoc 34527 Montpellier cedex 2/France www.annonc.fr/pa

**COTE D'AZUR** Castle with 470 acres. Apartments and villas from £75,000 to £500,000. Nobelex. 0033 493 742844 or 0033 468 1827428

**FREE TICKETS** to World Of Property, 02/3 January overseas property show. 0181 543 9088

**PROVENCE**
**Fayence**
Secluded 3 bedroom Provencal villa situated in 1/3 ha old olive grove (just under 1 acre) with fantastic views yet only 5 mins walk town centre. Large sitting area with enormous old fireplace, dining area, modern kitchen, log burning stove, bathroom, 2 terraces, large swimming pool, garage with workshop & cave. £130,000.
0181 675 3979

**Change your view of retirement**
**- visit a Courtyard today**
*English Courtyard lead the way, with beautifully landscaped gardens and very spacious houses & flats so you can really relax in your retirement. For nearly twenty years, English Courtyard have built some of the finest properties in many of the prettiest market towns and villages throughout England.*
Prices from £155,000 to £220,000 in
Cambridgeshire, Cheshire, Essex, Surrey, Warwickshire & West Sussex
*Access our Website on www.englishcourtyard.co.uk or Freephone 0800 220 858 for further details quoting ref NJA*
English Courtyard

## LONDON PROPERTY



21-23 RED LION STREET LONDON WC1

14 stunning flats in a contemporary conversion by Manton, designed by award-winning architects Michael Squire and Partners.

1 Bed Studios
2 Bed Apartments
2 and 3 Bed Duplex with garden or terrace
999 year leases

For further information and prices, contact:

OPENING WEEKEND 24-25 January 1998 10am-4pm

DE GROUT COLLIS 0171 235 8090

HAMPTONS CARR 0171 250 1012

## LONDON PROPERTY

# JOHN D WOOD & CO.

LONDON AND COUNTRY ESTATE AGENTS ESTABLISHED 1872



**NOTTING HILL, W11. Freehold Price Guide: £675,000**
An engaging, low-built period house in good order with a conservatory opening on to a 15.2m (50') west facing garden. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, 3 reception rooms and kitchen.
KENSINGTON OFFICE: 0171 727 0705

**Imperial Cancer Research Fund**
Registered Charity Number 209631

**The organising committee of the 1997 Boxing Day Quiz, sponsored by John D Wood & Co, are pleased to announce a sum in excess of £20,000 was raised for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.**

***To all those who paid their £10 and had a go, thank you very much.***



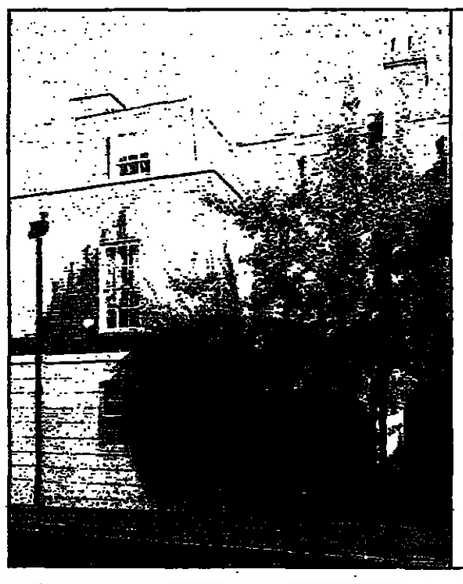
**SURREY – Farnham. Price Guide: £340,000**
A well proportioned house in a popular residential area to the south of Farnham with its excellent communications to London. 5 bedrooms, shower room, bathroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, cloakroom, garage and west facing garden.
FARNHAM OFFICE: 01252 737115



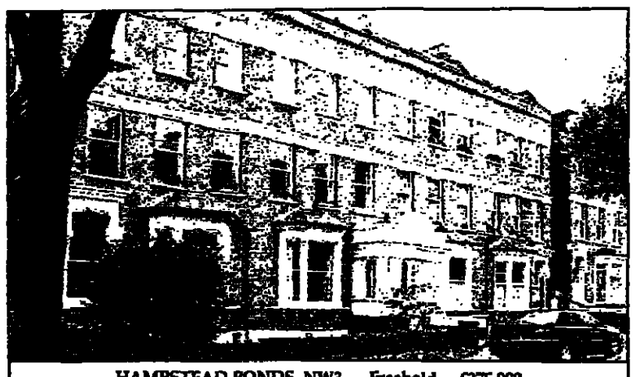
**ELAND ROAD, SW11.**
With excellent entertaining space, a house well located for Clapham Junction and Lavender Hill's comprehensive amenities.
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, shower rm, 2 reception rooms, study area, kitchen, utility room, conservatory, cloakroom and garden.
Freehold
£458,000
BATTERSEA OFFICE: 0171 228 0174



**WHARFEDALE STREET, SW10.**
Close to local facilities, a well maintained house with the potential for a conservatory at garden level and a 5th bedroom on the roof terrace, subject to the necessary consents.
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, cloakroom and garden.
Freehold
£660,000
CHELSEA OFFICE: 0171 352 1484



**PASSMORE STREET, SW1.**
A well decorated house arranged over three floors, with french windows from the dining room into the garden.
4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, balcony and garage.
Lease to 2078
£695,000
BELGRAVIA OFFICE: 0171 730 9854



***HAMPSTEAD PONDS, NW3. Freehold £275,000***
In a quiet location, an unmodernised garden flat within a period block, overlooking and leading onto the Hampstead Ponds. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, study, guest cloakroom and terrace.
ST. JOHN'S WOOD OFFICE: 0171 722 5556



***ST JAMES'S SQUARE, SW1. Lease to 2051 £495,000***
A sixth and seventh (top) floor maisonette in an eminent London square close to Pall Mall, Piccadilly and St James's Street. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, reception room, dining area, kitchen, cloakroom, lift, porterage and 2 balconies.
MAYFAIR OFFICE: 0171 408 0055



***COLEFORD ROAD, SW18. Freehold £289,500***
A charming Victorian cottage in the popular 'Tonsleys' near Wandsworth Town station, excellent local shopping facilities and restaurants. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, loft and garden.
WANDSWORTH OFFICE: 0181 871 3033

...urday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a ...

هكذا من الأصل

صكدا من الإصل



Sixteen kit homes built in the 1940s to last only ten years have been listed. **Rachel Kelly** reports

ASHLEY COOMBES



One of the prefab homes at Hall Green, Birmingham, awarded a Grade II listing

PA



The factory-built living quarters of a prefab arriving on site in 1946. The kitchen, bathroom and lavatory were added as a separate, ready-assembled unit

# Ab fab prefabs make the grade

They were meant to last a decade. Now 16 prefabs in a Birmingham suburb will be preserved for posterity thanks to the Government's decision to list them as Grade II.

Last week, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport hailed the prefabricated houses in Wake Green Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, as a "particularly well-preserved group of the rare Phoenix type of prefabs, of which fewer than 2,500 were built. Most retain original features, such as fully fitted interiors and rear sheds, with little alteration."

To many, these bungalows will sit oddly with the nation's register of listed mansions. So how have these temporary homes, built between 1944 and 1949 from kits using concrete frames and metal recycled from fighter planes, become monuments of British heritage? After all, only one in ten of the 3,500 listing applications lodged each year with English Heritage passes muster.

Margaret Richardson, the president of the Twentieth Century Society, which campaigns to preserve modern architecture, was delighted by the listing. "It's an excellent move," she says. "They were beautifully designed and immensely simple buildings. They were utilitarian, but they met their function in a pure, elegant and spare way."

Elain Harwood, an historian with English Heritage responsible for the postwar listing programme, says the Wake Green Road prefabs were especially rare, because no residents had moved in or out of them for 20 years. "They are in good condition, and function as successful homes. They have historic interest for their contribution to postwar regeneration."

The residents of Wake Green Road were less moved by the listing. Some were bemused, saying they had never heard of English Heritage or of listing, but others were pleased. Patricia Attenborrow, who has lived in her council prefab for 29 years and brought up three children there, says: "I am delighted with the listing, though I don't know much about the process. The house is snug and we have open views, with a stream at the bottom of the garden."





Lawrence and Pat Attenborrow in their listed prefab. "You couldn't ask for anything better," Mrs Attenborrow says

David Davidson, a conservation officer with Birmingham City Council planning department, says: "We are pleased that the national importance of these houses has been recognised, and so are most of the people who live there. They are proud of these houses. Some of them have been there for up to 30 years and wouldn't want to move."

English Heritage, which is surveying all postwar housing, found that the prefabs in Birmingham were the best preserved of their type. It expects to announce further listings of such housing, but the Birmingham prefabs have jumped the queue because repair work was looming.

English Heritage was called in when the council considered replacing the old pitch and sheeting roofs on the houses. The new roofs would have meant no chimney pots, and the tenants complained. Now, the council will repair the asbestos-sheet roofs, but there will be no other alterations, and the chimneys will stay.

Designed in cottage-style, with central doors, the Wake Green Road prefabs were built in 1946-47 with asbestos sheeting over a steel frame as a short-term expedient. At the end of the war, more than 150,000 of these factory-made, single-storey dwellings were built in Britain to ease the housing shortage at a time when timber and bricks were in short supply.

Each home was erected from a prefabricated kit on concrete foundations, but the kitchen, bathroom and lavatory arrived as a ready-assembled unit. The houses cost £1,200 in 1947 (equivalent to £25,000 at today's prices).

Originally built to last ten years, while bombed-out streets were being rebuilt, hundreds are still standing. Each area of the country had different models: the Arcon, Universal, Tarran, Phoenix and Hawksley.

Their popularity has waned over the decades. Initially, they were popular for their indoor lavatories, pristine bathrooms and gas fridges. But they were mocked in the Sixties and Seventies, with the return of traditional house styles and building materials. Most of Brimingham's prefabs were razed in the 1970s.

Now, as Ms Harwood says, surviving prefabs are widely admired. They are no longer the cheap item they once were. When the steel frames begin to corrode, and the hardboard floors to rot, repairs are expensive. But the gardens are often generous, especially by today's standards. Their lasting modern design appeals to a more minimalist 1990s, and Birmingham estate agent Chris Tanner estimates that a prefab might now sell for £55,000, though "it is very difficult to be sure ... they are almost antique". Undeniably, however, they now enjoy the added cachet of being potentially listed, and this, by common consent among estate agents, can add around 10 per cent to their value.


FRANCE

FRENCH ALPS. Ski properties from £30K - £600K. Resthouse, Bosphen Tel: 01562 886181

S.W. FRANCE Hilltop renovated farmhouse, stunning views, sleeps 12. Pool. Holiday or business poss. Must sell, only £165K. Tel: 01932 844 946

FRENCH PROPERTY EXHIBITION
30TH JANUARY – 1ST FEBRUARY 1998
FRI. 11.00 AM TO 6.00 PM. SAT. 10.00 AM TO 6.00 PM. SUN. 10.00 AM TO 5.00 PM
THE EXHIBITION CENTRE, NOVOTEL, 1 SHORTLANDS, HAMMERSMITH, LONDON W6
Organised by FPH: Visit our website: http://www.fph.co.uk/expo/ or write to us at 2a London Road, London SW20 0LR. Telephone: 0181 944 3500
BRITAINS BIGGEST & BEST EXHIBITIONS FOR HOMES IN FRANCE

USA

FLORIDA HOMES Orlando and Gulf Coast. Guaranteed rental schemes. FPA 01202 854460

FREE TICKETS to World Of Property. UK'S largest overseas property show: 0181 543 9088

FLORIDA
Palm Beach
Gorgeous home, ocean location, prestigious area, 4 bedroom, 4 baths, all amenities.
£995,000
Tel: 001 561 586 6304
Fax: 001 561 586 8794
email: lustbooks@aol.com
W.T.

FLORIDA
Palm Beach
Gorgeous home, ocean location, prestigious area, 4 bedroom, 4 baths, all amenities.
£995,000
Tel: 001 561 586 6304
Fax: 001 561 586 8794
email: lustbooks@aol.com
W.T.

PORTUGAL

ALGARVE Golf properties. Quinta do Lago, Vale do Lobo, Vilas Sol, Cascades. Quality villas prepared from Almancil to Lagos, new & resale. Prime Property International 01428 772841

SPAIN

ANDALUCIA Duplex apt in exclusive complex, pool, pools, sips 6. £59,000. 01903 813974

COSTA DEL SOL choose from operators properties in Marbella, P.Banus, Estepona etc for magnificent new & resale beachfront, golf & managed properties. Overseas offices & secretary viewings. Prime Property Int. 01628 778841

DENIA/JAVEA Special Offer Large plots. 2 bed, 2 bath villas & pool £94,000 0181 391 9966

SPAIN

FREE TICKETS to World Of Property. UK'S largest overseas property show: 0181 543 9088

JAVEA/MORAIRA £45k-£300k New & resale. Beach & yachtos Beaches Tel: 01562 886181

LUXURY APARTMENT
GUADALMINA ALTA - MARBELLA
3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, Garage. 6th floor views to Sea and Mountains, overlooking Golf courses. Newly refurbished - Delightfully furnished. Reason for sale owner returning to UK. Price £200,000 Complete
UK Tel/Fax: 0141 230 2823

TIMESHARE OVERSEAS

MARBELLA
4 Seasons Country Club
(gardens of Don Carlos Hotel, Elviria).
Luxury, charming apartment, orange trees, flooding, 2 weeks March, 2 weeks October, sleeps 6, 1 bathroom, 2 shower rooms. Clubhouse bar and restaurants, excellent golf and beach.
£2,980 per week.
Tel: 01530 245078

TIMESHARE UK

The Craigendarroch Owner's Club
Offer for sale the following timeshare weeks at the Craigendarroch Resort, Ballater, Scotland.
Studio Lodge, sips 2 people: Week 4
1 Bedroom Lodge, sips 4 people: Weeks 4,46
2 Bedroom Lodge, sips 6 people: Weeks 8,9,10,43,49,52
3 Bedroom Lodge, sips 8 people: Weeks 2,3,39
Offers on the above weeks should be sent to:
The Sales Office
Sheila Craigendarroch Resort
Braemar Road, Ballater,
Scotland AB35 5XA
Telephone Enquiries:
01339 755858

COUNTRY RENTALS

NR TUN WELLS Kent, 16C manor house, villi loc, 7 bed, lge gdns, £2,950 pcm. 0191 3051012

NR TUN WELLS Kent, 16C manor hse, yde villi loc, 7 bed, lge gdns, £2,950 pcm. 0191 3051012

FARINGDON
Oxfordshire
Outstanding views from this charming 4 bedrm Georgian townhouse in pretty market town about 15 mls west of Oxford. 2 reception rms, 2 bedrms, period features, GCH, cellar, pretty garden.
£1,000 pcm.
Tel 01367 820857.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

GENUINE EXCELLENT PURCHASE OPPORTUNITY
Magnificent Industrial Unit for Sale. (Former B&Q). Fully clad in composite insulated panelling. All steelwork "As New" (we will dismantle and can re-erect on your site). 262'x220'x20' (Eaves). 40,035 Sq.ft.
DRASTICALLY REDUCED PRICE
Was £180,000 now only £120,000 FOR QUICK SALE
Price includes dismantling, loading and plans.
Ref: GLA001
SUPERB STORAGE/ DISTRIBUTION CENTRE FOR SALE
(Former B.T.) Attractive curved Eaves design clad in blue box profile with magnificent glazed end. Many, many extra including Dock Levellers. 58,150 sq.ft main body plus 7,238 sq.ft canopy. (We will dismantle and can re-erect on your site). Price very sensibly at only £2.50 per sqft.
£163,500
Price includes dismantling, loading and plans.
Ref: LDN005
Tel: 01332 541433
or mobile 0378 631516
(Kevin Gladstone)

LONDON RENTALS

ARE YOU Visiting London? Central Estates have quality flats and houses in Central London for long or short term rentals. 0171 224 3773.

BAKER ST, W1 (Mr)Lux flat 3 Dble Rm, 2 Baths, Cloakrm, lge Recep, £650pw (Incl CH & HW) Long Let. Blythe 0171 486 5085

BLOOMSBURY Bsd new lux lge 2bd FF lux cnsry nr tube £950 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

CHELSEA, SW3 Maisonette. Nr Sloane Sq. Own courtyard. Parking. Sep entrance/study. Long or short let. Thelgra. £550pw Tel: 0171 5841413

CHELSEA Interior designed house, recep, 2 beds, study, 2 baths. £750pw or for sale at £495,000. Tel: 0171 4607173 or 0468 357025

CHELSEA, SW10. Selection of 2 bed flats £350pw - £650pw. Geo Justin 0171 352 3746

CHESTER SQUARE, SW1. Unfurn 1st flr flat. 3 beds, 2 bths (1 ens), large recep, dining, fitted kit, cdt. 1 pkg space. £1,300pw. Kent Capp 0171 730 9252

CITY Bsd new lux lge 1 & 2bd FF ens pkg port nr tube Fr £280 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

CITY, EC. Luxury 1 bed F/F apart. Purpose built. £300pw. Stock Page Stock 0171 251 4171

HYDE PARK Area. Luxury serviced apartment, 3 bed/rooms, 3 bathrooms, furnished to a v high standard. Available on short or long let from £1,000pw. Tel: 0171 5843621

ISLINGTON, N1. Super furn chnr hse with 3/4 beds, 2 recepts, 2 baths & gdn. £525pw. Tel. 0171 354 2269 Henley Graham

ISLINGTON Bsd new lux lge 2 bd 2 bth FF pkg nr tube fr £290 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

KENSINGTON W14 Lux 2 dbl bed town house, gdn, w/gnd pkg, nr tube, £280pw inc heat. 0181 7482442 or 01705 571918

KINGS RD 5 mins Lux lge 2bd 2bth pkg o/l river vws of Harbour club port £325pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

LANCASTER GATE Lux lge new a/l 2bd 2bth FF nr tube £550 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

MAIDA VALE W9, 3 bed, 2nd flr, balc. Ext views, new re-furb, very high std. Mus blt, £520pw. Tel: 0181 4689136.

MAIDA VALE Lux lge bsd new 1 & 2bd FF sec pkg port £280-£295 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

MAYFAIR V lux lge bsd new 2bd 2bth FF nr tube. £550pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

NOTTING HILL GATE PL. Lge 3 bed 2 recep, new decor, £480pw. 0181 749 9406

PIMLICO Brochetun Sq. A superb lux duo 2 dbl bed 2 bath 2 rec flr, period bldg. Full furn, patio £525pw.DTA 0171 408 2747

PIMLICO A stunning 2 dbl bed 2 bath flr in new dev, sec pkg, lux dec, £450pw. 0171 408 2747

S. KENSINGTON. Large flat with a stunning private terrace. 2 beds, 2 baths, £450pw or for sale £250,000. Tel: 0171 4607173 or 0468 357025

ST JAMES PK Lux lge bsd new 2 bd 2bth FF pkg nr tube fr £300 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

ST JOHN'S WOOD Luxury 4 bed, 2 recep, cowalhouse, patio, park 2 cars, available now £950pw. 0171 794 6702/0956 264272

ST JOHN'S WD Lux 1 bed 1st flr flat LL. £250pw, SL £950pw. 0171 794 2181/0958 948494

ST KATHS DK 2 min Lux lge bsd new 2bd 2bth FF pkg fr £350 pw. City Lets 0171 488 1458

WIMBLEDON Centre court 3 mins, tube 1 min, comfortable 3 bed house, garage, gardens, £400pw. Tel: 01273 462979

W14 2 storey Victorian house in village location private garden, £265,000. 0171 602 5666

W14 Three bedroom split level apartment with roof terrace £265,000. 0171 602 5666

SW7 Newly refurb, bright 2 dble bed flat, mod private terr. Furn £450pw. KCC 0171 225 3468

SW1 Selection of well presented 1 & 2 bed flats in modern secure p/b bldg. Furn £250 - £390pw. KCC 0171 225 3468

SW1 Spacious private 2 dble bed mews flat. Gge by arrg nego. Furn £550pw. KCC 0171 225 3468

KENSINGTON, SW7
Refurbished
1½ bedroom flat, CH, New decor, kitchen & bathroom.
£335 pw
Tel: 0171 225 3068

HOUSE TO LET
Brook Green, West Ken
Fully furnished. 4 beds, large kitchen, small garden, off street parking. Open aspects from lounge and all bedrooms. Walking distance of Tube & Buses. Excellent shopping in Hammersmith & Kensington.
Must view. £760pw.
Tel. (01273) 561195

HOME-RENT ASSOCIATES
EST. 1976
KENSINGTON, SW7
A beautiful 4th floor flat of approx. 2,700sq ft in a prestige mansion block with a most impressive entrance. Albert Court is adjacent to the Royal Albert Hall & Hyde Park. Light and bright it has high ceilings and elegant reception rooms suitable for grand entertaining. Ideal for anyone looking for the unique and the luxury of space.
Entrance Hall, Drawing Room, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Pantry, Guest Cloakroom, Three Bedrooms, Two Bathrooms plus Shower/Sauna/Solarium.
UNFURNISHED : £1,350pw inclusive of service charge, hot water and central heating.
Please Telephone 0181 959 5912 for further details

NEW HOMES

HAMPTON GREEN
STATION ROAD · HAMPTON · MIDDLESEX
Luxury living on the village green
TOWNHOUSES NOW RELEASED AT HAMPTON GREEN
65% reserved
- An extremely popular and successful development, fronted by a newly created village green
- 4 bedroom townhouses, some overlooking the village green, now released
- 3 bedroom terraced houses with garages also available
- Attractive period styling
- High quality specifications
- Many with south facing gardens
- Within half a mile of Hampton station (London Waterloo 40 mins approx)
- See Hampton Green springing to life from the viewing platform

Marketing suite open daily from 10am to 5pm (weekdays 11am to 7pm), telephone 0181 783 1324.
Prices from £187,500 to £289,950
ST JAMES HOMES
In association with Berkeley Homes (Thames Valley) Limited & Thames Water Developments Ltd
Berkeley HOMES QUALITY TO APPRECIATE

FINE PROPERTIES OVERSEAS
SPAIN & THE BALEARICS
Costa Del Sol Marbella, P Banus, Elviria, Estepona, Mijas, San Pedro Sotogrande
Costa Blanca Villas with pools and stunning views in Javea, Moraira, Benissa, Benitachell, etc. Also Villamartin- affordable golf & beach properties - three courses.
Costa Brava Torremirona - Quality villas under 12hrs from UK by car or train.
Mallorca Andratx, Bendinat,Cala D'Or, Deya, Palma, P Pollensa, S Ponsa etc.
Menorca All areas, plus brand new front line villas at P Addaya with pool etc.
PORTUGAL
Praia D'or, Rio Nowest golf & country club resort - right on the beach.
ALSO
Grenadines, Bahamas - tax benefits and the Asset Retreat of Finance
Dominican Republic- affordable beachside villas.
Prices from £80,000 - £4million
WORLD CLASS HOMES Freefone 0800 908984
International: +44 181 553 6294 e-mail: worldclasshomes@dial.pipex.com

PORTUGAL

PARQUE DA FLORESTA
Premier Golf & Leisure Resort
with stunning views over the spectacular par 72 course to the sea. Tennis Courts, Championship Bowls, Heated Pool Complex, Fitness Centre, Restaurants & Bar.
- 4 Ownership option from £31,500
- Golf Village Houses from £106,500
- Luxury villas can be built to your design from £185,000

All owners enjoy preferred tee off times & 50% off green fees
For details & colour brochure please call Andrew Burridge on 01223 316820
UNSPOILT WESTERN ALGARVE

NEW HOMES

Westbury
Situated in Mount Batten overlooking Cattewater and the marinas, the City of
Plymouth
and the moors beyond, Admiral's Reach is a range of 4 bedroom detached homes with excellent specification. To help you move, Full Value Part Exchange or our 1 year mortgage holiday* is available. Prices from £125,000 to £155,000.
Call (01752) 482635 11am-5pm daily
*Only 1 incentive per sale available on selected plots, subject to status, terms and conditions. Written quotation on request. A typical Westbury street scene at Mount Batten.

U.K. & OVERSEAS TIMESHARE

TIMESHARE
TIMESHARE COUNCIL
Keeping Timeshare fair.
Timeshare Council is the official voice of the timeshare industry in the U.K. Our members seek to maintain the highest standards of professionalism throughout the industry and protect the interests of timeshare owners. That's why you should only buy your timeshare from a Council member.
For more information, call us on 0171 821 3845 quoting TT1.
Timeshare Council, 23 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB.

When she gives up her Kensington home, Lady Celestria Noel will also relinquish Jennifer's diary. **Philip Delves Broughton** reports



No 8 Peel Street, home for the fictional socialite Jennifer



Lady Celestria Noel, alias social chronicler Jennifer, in the drawing room of her house in Kensington, now on the market. "I won't miss London at all," she insists

# Haven at the hub of high society

The most British thing about British high society is that it takes real stamina to keep up. The false front of It Girls and their polo-necked boyfriends can obscure the fact there is no other country in the world in which the upper class praises its female members with terms like "trooper", "brick" or "goer".

Where else is a "great girl" not some pouting prima donna, but rather the sort of slightly thick-ankled "gel" with a laugh like a concertina, who spends an hour before Sunday lunch wrestling with the dog?

## HOUSE OF THE WEEK

For the past five and a half years, it has fallen to Lady Celestria Noel to chronicle this stratum of British society in her role as Jennifer, the fabled social diarist of *Harpers & Queen*. As one of seven children of the Earl of Gainsborough, she is both comfortably of this class, and its pre-eminent observer.

Every month, she has tracked its movements with the diligence Richard Attenborough reserves for fruit bats. From weddings and 21st birthday parties to gallery openings and PR events, Lady Celestria, 42, has been there, taking down names, talking, flattering and observing.

Now, however, she is off, trading in her party pumps for wellingtons. She is selling her house in London and planning a move to Ludlow in Shropshire with her husband, Tom Hale, a turf-mad chauffeur.

When she opens the door of her home in Peel Street, a pretty and fashionable row of 19th-century terraced houses in Kensington, she looks the very embodiment of her column. Small and slightly matronly, her light brown hair has been brushed back into a shires bounce with a few firm-wristed strokes.

She is dressed all in black, though the swish in her skirt and stretch in her top hint at a Harvey Nichols side to her character. Single pearl earrings, a brown velvet scarf and a hastily applied wodge of pink lipstick complete the look of very English efficiency.

When she talks, however, it is in a slight, ticklish voice. Her world is full of "rotters" and "cads", phoney European royalty and country house shenanigans.

"There are two USPs [unique selling points] to Jennifer's diary," she says. "We go to everything we write about and we are universally kind. The cardinal sin for us would be to write so-and-so was there with his charming wife and then find out they had broken down on the motorway."

Lady Celestria was brought up at her father's home, Exton Park in Rutland. After reading English at Oxford, she went into publishing and freelance journalism before landing up as Jennifer. She married Mr Hale eight years ago, and the couple have a daughter Catherine, seven. Mr Hale turns 65 this year and Lady Celestria is keen to leave the London whirl well behind her.

"I won't miss London at all," she says. "I considered doing a sort of virtual Jennifer from the country, but then thought it would be a bad idea. I really do need to go into an office.

"When Mrs Kenward was Jennifer," says Lady Celestria, "society was finite and she probably knew everyone she needed to know for the column."

She is referring here to Betty Kenward, the last Jennifer but one, who did the job for 60 years. Now 92, she is still a feature on the Mayfair art gallery circuit and regularly winters in Palm Springs. Mrs Kenward described her Methuselan stint as Jennifer in a classic book of memoirs, *60 Years of Fun and Functions*.

"Now there are all the charities, rock musicians, film people and lots of Americans and Europeans," adds Lady Celestria.

Keeping track of European titles can be a sweat. "The Italians tend to 'Count' themselves fairly ad lib," says Lady Celestria. "It is also very hard getting the names of all the Greeks right, as they roam in big groups and lots of them have the same first names."

Her house bears few traces of party life. The kitchen and dining room are functional and lived-in, with the odd Barbados table mat suggesting life in the fast lane. Like the rest of the house, these rooms are decorated in light pinks and whites.

On the first landing is a conservatory-turned-study that juts out into a small terraced garden. The sitting room could belong in the over-stuffed Knightsbridge town houses inhabited by Jennifer's subjects: hunting prints on the wall, copies of *The Field* and a *Racing Post* on an occasional table, and deep sofas.

On the top floor is the master bedroom, containing a massive 7ft by 7ft bed to contain Mr Hale's 6ft 6in frame, and a bathroom. Down in the basement are rooms for Catherine and an au pair, as well as another bathroom.

Mr Hale clearly cannot wait to escape London for the racing opportunities in the country. "A casual question about racecourses near Ludlow prompted a detailed response: "Well there's Ludlow, of course, Bangor, Wrexham, Warwick, Wolverhampton, Chepstow, Leicester isn't so far and Cheltenham is within range. I might miss Newbury and Ascot though."

● *No 8 Peel Street is being sold by Douglas & Gordon, 45 Sloane Avenue, London SW3 (0171-225 1225) for £450,000.*



*The study where Jennifer sorts her party invitations*

## DREAM HOMES IN KENSINGTON

**LORD SNOWDON** lives with his wife Lucy in this townhouse close to Kensington Gardens (right). The white-painted stucco-fronted Victorian turret house, which Snowdon has owned for 19 years, has a studio in the basement and is valued at more than £2 million. He also owns a country home near Haywards Heath in Sussex.





***HAROLD PINTER***, the actor and playwright, and **LADY ANTONIA FRASER**, the writer, live in this large double-fronted portico townhouse, near Holland Park (left). The four-storey early-Victorian property, which is both a home and a workplace, has a study in the garden and overlooks a communal garden. Neighbouring houses have recently sold for £1.85 million.

**THE RAUSING** family, bought Aubrey House (right), set on the summit of Campden Hill, in November last year for £20 million. The Grade II* listed, early-Georgian mansion, with a terrace of three houses within the grounds, has 14 bedrooms, six kitchens, a library and wine cellar and a two-acre walled garden which adjoins Holland Park.



## HOME SWAP

PROPERTY prices in Islington, north London, rose 25 per cent in 1997, according to agents Holden Matthews. The market is still very active, with keen interest in large Georgian and Victorian terraced houses costing up to £800,000. Popular areas include Highbury Fields, Canonbury and Barnsbury. One-bedroom flats fetch from £125,000 to £165,000; two-bedroom maisonettes from £190,000 to £260,000. Prices slip closer to Hackney, where you can pick up a four-bedroom Victorian house from £250,000.

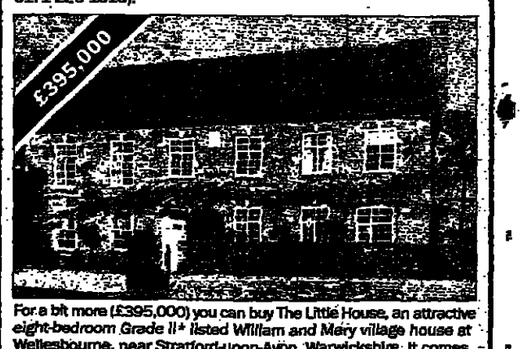
With high prices in Oxfordshire, London 'émigrés' are moving over the border to Warwickshire, where prices increased 15 per cent last year, says Knight Frank. The area around Stratford-upon-Avon is highly sought-after and good properties are in short supply. Small terraced village cottages fetch from £100,000. Expect to pay £250,000 for a four-bedroom period house; from £450,000 for a six-bedroom farmhouse with paddocks. Larger country houses range from £550,000 to £800,000.

The exodus from the capital is also pushing up prices in Somerset. With a clutch of good schools (including Millfield) and good communications, the area around Baltonsborough and Glastonbury, close to the A303 and 90 minutes from Paddington to Castle Cary by fast train, is a popular choice.

Prices increased by 15 per cent last year and are still rising, says Savills. A detached three-bedroom cottage costs from £125,000. For £300,000 you can buy a five-bedroom Georgian village house; a farmhouse with up to ten acres costs £450,000.




This elegant four-storey, three-bedroom Georgian terraced house, with a 50ft rear garden, in Halton Road, Islington, within walking distance of Upper Street, and Angel and Highbury & Islington stations, is available at £389,950 (Holden Matthews, 0171-226 1313).




For a bit more (£395,000) you can buy The Little House, an attractive eight-bedroom Grade II* listed William and Mary village house at Wellesbourne, near Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. It comes with outbuildings, garden and orchard (Knight Frank, 01789 297735).



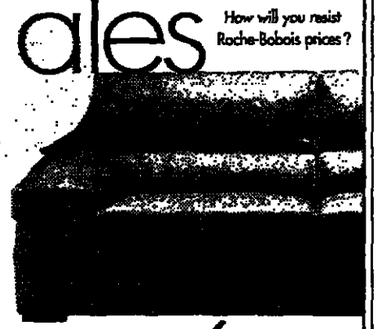

In Somerset, Myrtle House, a Grade II listed six-bedroom, 18th-century village house, can be bought for even less (£375,000). It has a 1.85-acre walled garden and paddock, a coach house and stables (Savills, 01225 474550).

CHERYL TAYLOR

January 8th to 21st

ales

How will you resist Roche-Bobois prices?



Free parking
We will be open on Sundays during the sales
421-425 Finchley Road, Hampstead London NW3 6HL
Phone: 0171 431 14 11 - Fax 0171 431 16 11
e-mail 2790Global.spec.com WWW.Roche-Bobois.Co.UK

ROCHE BOBOIS PARIS

EXPRESSING YOUR INTERIOR WORLD

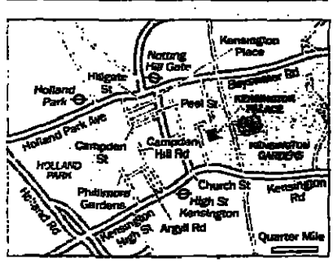
*ALTHOUGH it is often lumped together* with Chelsea, Kensington's architectural charms attract a somewhat different clientele. *Whereas Chelsea and south* Kensington are home to a cosmopolitan mix of Americans, French, Italians and Asians as well as moneyed British, Kensington itself is a relatively staid, wealthy and essentially English enclave.

Edward Mead of estate agent Douglas & Gordon differentiates between the two areas on the grounds that while Chelsea pulls the money with country piles out west and south of the city, those gravitating north for the weekend prefer Kensington.

In square footage terms, Kensington is less expensive than Chelsea: a good quality and well-sized purpose-built flat would fetch £350-£450 per sq ft there, compared with £400-£500 per sq ft for something comparable further south.

For houses, meanwhile, size carries added kudos: the larger the property, the *more expensive it will be per square foot.* While you could pay as much as £1,000 per sq ft for 5,000 sq ft in the desirable *Phillimore* estate, a small, unmodernised house such as that in Peel Street, at the other end of the spectrum, will fetch

## MARKET COMMENT




around £300 per sq ft. The Phillimore estate, to the southeast of Holland Park, boasts Kensington's grandest homes — low-built, wide, stucco-fronted family houses with valuable off-street parking and gardens, where prices of £1.5 to £2 million are the norm. Further down the *price ladder, Kensington also has a cache* of mid-19th-century mews cottages just south of Notting Hill Gate (Hillgate Place, Kensington Place), originally built for the workers constructing the Metropolitan Underground line, which are on the market at about £450,000-£600,000. There are also Victorian purpose-built blocks of spacious mansion flats such as *Troy Court and Kensington Court*, thick-walled and solid. But expect to pay £400,000-£500,000 for a three-bedroom apartment.

Indeed, much of the accommodation has been owned by the same families for many years, often without being substantially modernised, which makes it an interesting hunting ground for those looking for a "project" property to renovate.

Recent Savills research indicates that Kensington tops the prime London performance charts, with almost 90 per cent growth in property value between December 1993 and June 1997.

The market has recently eased, but Ian Homersham at John D. Wood's Kensington branch reports overall price increases of 15-20 per cent during the past year. "Prices still tend to inch up with *each new instruction,*" he notes. At Douglas & Gordon, Edward Mead is also sanguine, despite the fact that sales are 50 per cent down on a year ago.

FAITH GLASGOW

Office, tel: phone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998

هكذا من الأصل





society

HOME SWAP

# A double delight in Docklands!

If you're looking for a new home you could be doubly delighted if you visit our superb 'Millennium Wharf' and 'Maritime Quay' developments on the Isle of Dogs.

Situated across the river from the Millennium Festival site, 'Millennium Wharf' offers a selection of quality 1 & 2 bedroomed apartments, whilst 'Maritime Quay', in sought after West Ferry Road, provides a range of 3 & 4 bedroomed town houses. All of these homes are built to the highest standard and come complete with the specification you would expect in homes of this quality.

So visit our sales office now. You'll be delighted you did. Twice.



*Photo of show apartment at Millennium Wharf*



*Artist's impression of Millennium Wharf from the river*

Prices correct at time of going to press. Illustration is artist's impression only

*'Millennium Wharf'*
**MANCHESTER ROAD.**
A development of 1 & 2 bedroomed apartments from around £99,950.
FOR DETAILS CALL JAMES ON
**0171 531 9997**
SALES OFFICE OPEN 11am – 6.30pm 7 days

*'Maritime Quay'*
**WEST FERRY ROAD.**
A range of 2 bedroomed houses and 3 & 4 bedroomed town houses from around £119,000.
FOR DETAILS CALL COLIN ON
**0171 537 7122**
SALES OFFICE OPEN 11am – 6.30pm 7 days



NOW OPEN UNTIL 10pm WED & THUR

BETTER BUILT HOMES. TAKE IT AS **REDROW**




At Kerves Lane, Horsham, Berkeley Homes are building three magnificent country houses, set in the heart of West Sussex with good access and communications to London.

The houses have five or seven bedrooms, traditional exteriors and lavishly-finished interiors featuring solid oak staircases, oak kitchens with granite worktops and oak interior doors on the ground floor. A spacious leisure room that can be used to suit a variety of lifestyles, adds great flexibility to the development. Each house stands in a minimum of 2/3rds acre of gardens, overlooking open country, yet Horsham Town Centre and Railway Station are just over a mile away.

With the completion of the homes expected in the summer, there is still plenty of scope to personalise your home through the Berkeley Homes Bespoke Service.



*Photographs shows typical interiors.*

With only three houses available an early reservation is recommended.

**Prices from £695,000 - £750,000**

For more information call:
**01403 211230**

*Selling Agents:*
NEW HOMES
01403 251966

WHAT HOUSE? AWARD WINNER
Sponsored by THE SUNDAY TIMES

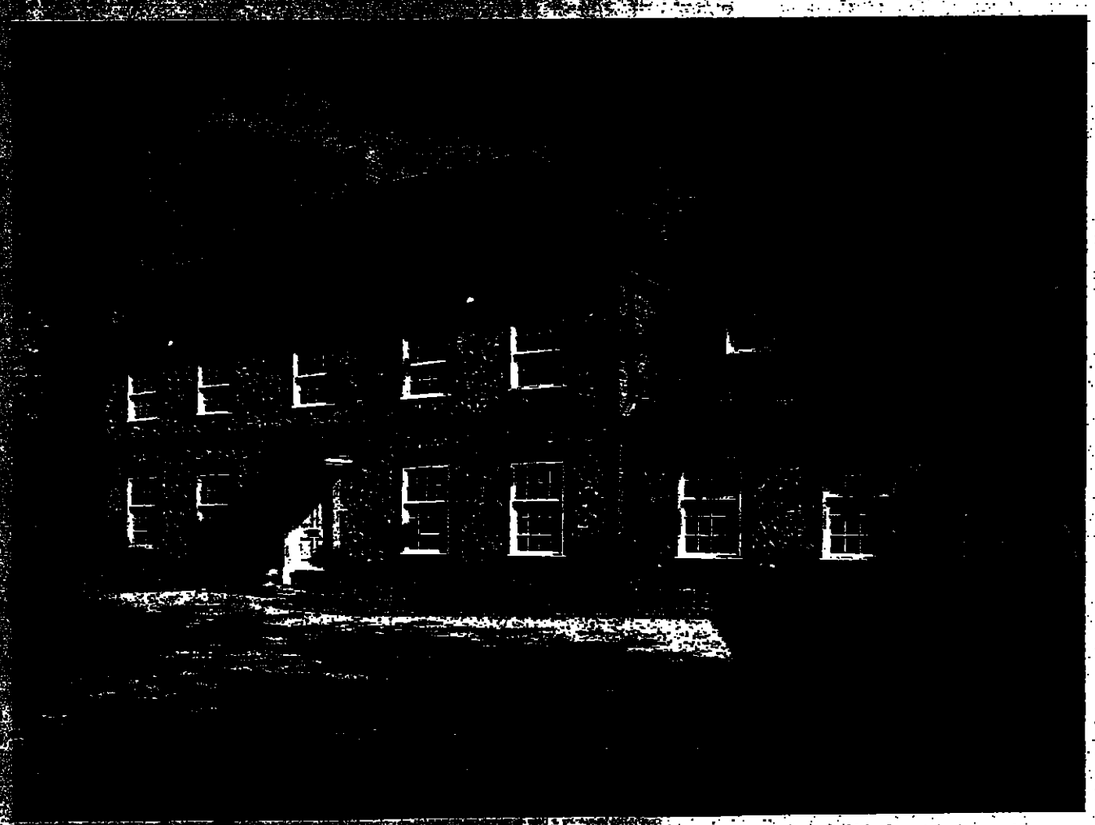
Berkeley HOMES
QUALITY TO APPRECIATE



# Quality Homes of Character

# CHARLES CHURCH









SURREY

**LONGCROFT** – Kingsfield
Stunning four bedroom [illegible] apartment and penthouse apartments from £750,000.
Telephone 0181 399 7799.

**CAMBERLEY** – Bridge Wood
Nr Sandhurst. A development of detached houses in two elevational styles.
Prices from £360,000.
Telephone 01276 62912.

**CARSHALTON** – Woodcote Park
Just 26 four and five bedroom homes in traditional elevational designs.
Prices from £349,950.
Telephone 01883 345255.

**CRANLEIGH** – Beechcroft
Development of 22 four bedroom homes on the edge of Cranleigh.
Prices from £300,000.
Telephone 01483 267534.

BERKSHIRE

**EARLEY – Woodland Grove**
An exclusive development of 4 five bedroom homes in three elevational styles.
Current releases from £315,000.
Telephone 0118 9352555.

**CROWTHORNE – Ravens Court**
Two and three bedroom terraced homes and one and two bedroom apartments.
Price guide from £80,000 – £140,000.
Telephone 01344 352372.

**WOKINGHAM – Southlands**
Two classically styled five bedroom detached houses.
Prices at £297,500 and £315,000.
Telephone 0118 9776776.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

**MARLOW – Wethered Park**
Magnificent four and five bedroom townhouses, two and three bedroom cottages and apartments.
Current releases from £207,500 – £480,000.
Telephone 01628 475070.

HAMPSHIRE

**STUBBINGTON – Spring Walk**
Spring Walk boasts three, four and five bedroom homes in traditional elevational styles.
Prices from £115,000 – £210,000.
Telephone 01329 288425.

HERTFORDSHIRE

**ARKLEY – The Grange**
Stunning five bedroom detached country homes in a quiet rural setting.
Prices from £435,000 – £520,000.
Telephone 0181 441 2492. Showhouse open*.

**CHESHUNT – Burleigh View**
An inspiring development of 18 five bedroom homes in 9 elevational styles.
Price guide from £294,950.
Telephone 01707 872500.

**BUSHEY – Phoenix Court**
A superb development of three and four bedroom, two and three storey townhouses, some featuring balconies.
Prices from £210,000.
Telephone 0181 950 6885. Showhouse open*.

MIDDLESEX

**NORTHWOOD – Westcote**
An exclusive five bedroom home situated on the sought after Copse Wood development.
Price £650,000.
Telephone 0181 954 0044.

*All sales offices and showhouses are open every day from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Prices and availability correct at time of going to press.

*Showpiece three bedroomed cottage at Knatchbull, Long Distance.*

*[illegible] please call one of the sales offices listed above.*



## STEPHEN ANDERTON'S GARDEN ANSWERS

**Q My *Viburnum opulus* 'Notcutt's Variety' is eight years old, a perfect shape, but flowerless and only 3ft x 3ft. It is in the partial shade of a robinia tree. Does it need more light? It cannot be starved because it is next to a small compost box. — Mrs K. Knapton, Cambridge.**

A 'Notcutt's Variety' of guelder rose is a really vigorous plant, growing to 12ft or more, with luscious clusters of autumn berries — so 3ft in eight years is ludicrous. There is a smaller, free-flowering form of *Viburnum opulus* called 'Compactum', but even this grows to 8ft. I feel sure you have been sold *Viburnum opulus* 'Nanum', a virtually non-flowering form with good autumn colour and thin, upright, reddish winter stems. In 20 years it often grows no bigger than 3-4ft. Move your bush to a more appropriate position, and buy a larger form for this spot. 'Compactum' is best for moderate-sized gardens.

**Q Five years ago I decided to raise some bushes from cobnuts. My 14 bushes spent three years in pots, and have been in the ground for two years, but there are still no nuts. What am I doing wrong? — A.B. Smith, Helmdon, Northants.**

A Hazels (cobs) have wiry root systems, and do not enjoy being potted. They are better planted out in the first year, as seedlings, for fastest establishment. Even so, you could expect to wait six to eight years for a seedling hazel to begin to flower and settle down to fruiting.

Five years is too soon to expect nuts. The catkins are the male flowers, and the tiny red tufts the females. Have you seen any flowers yet? Both appear on the same bush. When you buy a two-year-old cobnut, it takes four to five years of pruning to get the trees to nut production.

**Q I have a 20-year-old vine growing on my garage wall. Last year I gave the crop to a local winemaker who produced some excellent results. What type of feed should the vine be given, and when? — B. Chesler, Chigwell, Essex.**

A If the vine is in a generous bed, feed the area of its roots in February with a balanced fertiliser such as Growmore (2oz to the square yard) and sulphate of potash (half an ounce to the square yard). To retain moisture and to keep the soil rich, mulch the area with some good old compost.

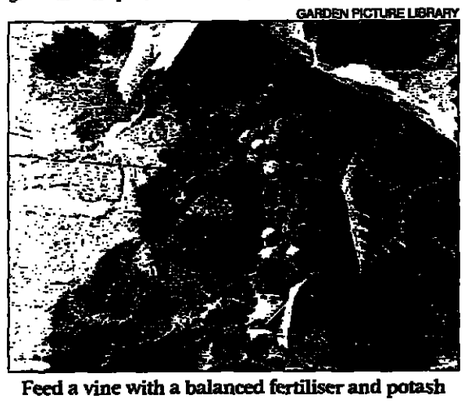
If your vine is in a narrow bed between tarmac and the garage wall, apply the Growmore and mulch in spring at the same area-rate. Don't overdose it just because the bed is narrow. Apply a high-potash liquid feed such as Chempak No 4 in summer. Vines are hungry and, especially against a wall or under glass, thirsty. So make sure it has enough water. Your 20-year-old vine will have a big root system, but is it mostly under tarmac?

**Q What is a residual weedkiller? Do they leech around in the soil like sodium chlorate? My garden centre does not have the answers. — K.W. Ackland, Weston-super-Mare.**

A Sodium chlorate is an old-fashioned total weedkiller. It is a highly soluble compound that washes through the soil, killing everything in its path, and lingering for years if rain is insufficient to wash it away. Because it is so soluble, it can leech sideways with heavy rains into ground not intended to be treated. So be very careful with it. Residual weedkillers are designed to stay locked into the top surface of the soil for a season, killing seedlings as they emerge, but not affecting well-established plants.

● *Write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. We regret it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times also regrets that any enclosures cannot be returned.*

GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY



Feed a vine with a balanced fertiliser and potash

The heir to Sudeley Castle is a reformed character who enjoys trimming hedges, says **Jane Owen**

PETER NICHOLLS



Henry Dent-Brocklehurst and his Hawaiian fiancée Lili Maltese. The gardens at Sudeley will be transformed this summer for their Polynesian-themed reception

# Turning over a new leaf

ME AND MY GARDEN: **HENRY DENT-BROCKLEHURST**

Once, when he was especially naughty, Henry Dent-Brocklehurst, the heir to Sudeley Castle in Gloucestershire, was punished by being sent into the gardens to help trim the yew. He so enjoyed the punishment that he carried on clipping for an extra day. His passion for gardening, and that of his mother, Lady Ashcombe, has lasted until now — interrupted only by his addiction to drugs.

"During my teenage years I had a problem with drugs. Fortunately, that ended early so the serious part of my life has not been afflicted by that problem," says 31-year-old Mr Dent-Brocklehurst, who has recently returned from Los Angeles, where he ran his own film company.

This summer, part of the garden at Sudeley will be transformed for his wedding to the American model Lili Maltese, who was brought up in Hawaii. Mr Dent-Brocklehurst says: "We are going to have a very English service followed by a huge Polynesian themed reception, so the tithe barn garden will be planted like a Gauguin painting. My mother is doing all the work on it. We're having *leis* — flower garlands — flown over from Hawaii and we're going to have hothouse plants and palm trees."

How will the exotic Lili like a garden designed by several English roses — from the 19th-century Emma Dent to the current Lady Ashcombe with the help of Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall and Rosemary Verey — and renowned for its 80 rose varieties?

"My fiancée loves the idea of being here, although there will never be a time when we will spend a month here without going to London," he says. "We'll go to both places every week. Because she is a model, she travels a lot and my business interests will take me back to America.

"You marry who you fall in love with, and I certainly didn't have a multiple choice questionnaire that had to be filled in before falling in love. I knew that one day I wanted to get married. I wasn't in a hurry but I knew that I was moving back to England and my lifestyle would suit being married more than being single — especially with Sudeley.

"And as the universe would have it, Lili came into my life at the right time, so it all came together. She is very exotic and has lived in Hawaii all her life. When I went there she knew everything about the rainforest trees and flowers, but I don't think she is that up on English gardens."

But maybe a passion for English gardens will grow. It was largely down to Lady Ashcombe — "a self-confessed townie" when she arrived at Sudeley nearly 30 years ago — that the 15-acre gardens won the 1996 Christie's Garden of the Year Award.

"My mother is a great gardener and has made a great garden. Sudeley has mainly been known as a woman's castle because women have run it for generations and, in some ways, the outer estate has been neglected. I'm trying to rebuild the original estate.

"We've already dug out the lake and we will have an estate walk as well as the pleasure gardens. It was my idea. I felt that a man had to come in and take on the estate," says Mr Dent-Brocklehurst.

The head gardener, Iain Billot, is remarkably unfazed by these grand schemes, even when Mr Dent-Brocklehurst speaks with warmth about bringing back some herds of deer. Gardening conditions generally are fair to middling: "We are about 300ft up and the ground is very rubbly. Every time you dig you come up with a bit of old castle," Mr Billot says.

Sudeley probably started as a Saxon house built on wool wealth. It was left in ruins by Cromwell's army in 1649 and was rebuilt in the last century.

The garden's disparate styles reflect the castle's history. Beside one of the lodges is an ornamental Victorian kitchen garden made with the help of Europe's leading organic gardening organisation, the Henry Doubleday Research Association. Here, vegetable varieties, frowned on by the EU, which has banned the sale of their seed, flourish on a raised bed system.

Around the huge old ruins of the tithe barn, the venue for the wedding party, is an attractive mixed planting: species roses, *Euphorbia characias subs. wulfenii*, the white-flowered *Romneya coulteri* 'White Cloud', *Stipa gigantea*, early-flowering clematis, Japanese anenomes, the silver-leaved pineapple shrub *Cytisus battandieri* and the skeleton of what must once have been a mighty wisteria.

The Queen's garden, planted in 1989 mainly with roses and herbs and surrounded by huge 19th-century yew hedges with tiny alleys between them, was designed by Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall.

Nearby, the banqueting hall, ruined by Cromwell's men, has been made into a garden with references to its past. A fireplace in a remaining wall is stacked with logs and a stone chair is draped with a cloak-like veil of the rambler rose 'Veilchenblau'.

Lady Ashcombe's great innovation is the Moroccan-style knot garden based on the dress worn in a painting of Elizabeth I. Tiles, coloured gravel and box blend together English and Moorish garden traditions.

"This garden is three years old and it was my mother's idea to bring influences into the garden from the outside. My idea is to have a garden with sculptures from all over the world. Sudeley is not always looking back. We are looking towards the millennium. We are planning a world herb garden representing every country in the form of healing herbs."

A lot of Mr Dent-Brocklehurst's talk is commercial, of "giving people the package they want". But he has affection for the garden and uses it as a place to relax, particularly in an area away from the castle where he has a two-bedroom folly.

"I love walking around the garden and I do yoga there. We have a cottage, which looks English from the outside, done out in a Balinese style with a river running through it. I go there to be alone and relax. A glazed gazebo nearby, on a platform overhanging the stream, is where I do yoga. It's a very peaceful place to sit."

Maybe that is why he has stayed so apparently down to earth despite a playboy reputation, five years in Los Angeles and his brush with drugs. "I always knew that there was something bigger and that one day I would have to change my life accordingly.

"Sudeley is important and I feel most at home here. But I am not going to be putting on my slippers and curling up next to the fire just yet."

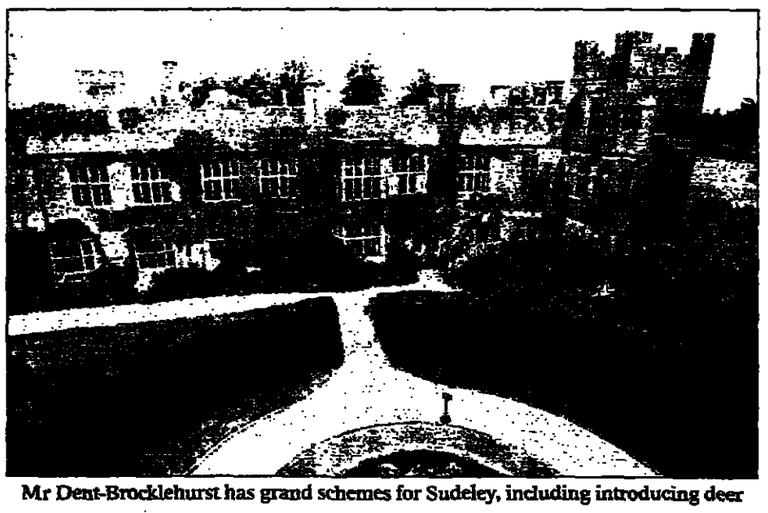
ENGLISH HERITAGE



The castle seen through the arch of the tithe barn



The tithe barn at Sudeley in full bloom in summer



Mr Dent-Brocklehurst has grand schemes for Sudeley, including introducing deer

■ Bring potted bulbs, such as *hyacinths and narcissi*, indoors from the cold frame or cold greenhouse when the flower buds are just showing in the nose of the bulb. Provide a cool room at first, of only 50F (10C), and as light a position as possible. Sudden heat will cause the bulbs to shoot too quickly, producing lank, gangly stems and rank, floppy foliage.

■ Beware of walking on lawns when the turf is completely hard with frost; the resulting blackened footsteps will take some time to disappear.



■ Established fruit trees, such as apples and pears (but not stone fruits like plums and peaches), may need dead and diseased wood cut out, together with any misplaced crossing branches. This will reduce disease and let light into the crown to ripen the fruit.

■ Check tree ties to ensure they are not too tight. There should be just enough play to allow the trunk to expand, but not so much that it can rub and chafe young bark. Even the plastic spiral tree guards used to keep rabbits off the lower 2ft of young trees can become too tight. Frequently they lock into position and grip the young trunk in a damaging embrace before age and sunlight have had time to degrade the plastic.

■ Erect, repair and apply preservative to fences. Where necessary, fix chicken wire to fences to exclude rabbits. It needs to be set at least 30in up the fence, and let into the ground for 12in, curving through 90 degrees to the horizontal on the enemy's side, so that they can't dig underneath.

■ Plants that have been under water in the January floods will be at risk from hard frosts if the ground is still saturated. Temporary overnight protection, even with a few layers of polythene, is helpful. But take it off again as soon as you can, because wind will dry soil quickly.

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES




**Three nights for only £149**

Times readers are offered this superb four-day break to Normandy, staying in the historical city of Rouen. You will travel by luxury coach which departs from a number of regional towns. You will have ample time to visit the sights, museums and shops in Rouen and to sample some of the local cuisine in the many restaurants, all located within walking distance of your hotel.

Included in this trip is a full-day excursion to the beautiful gardens of Giverny, the inspiration for many of Claude Monet's paintings. You will also visit Les Andelys and the Gaillard Château, built by Richard the Lionheart in the 12th century. An optional excursion to Bayeux to see the famous tapestry and cathedral is also available.

Departures from April to October, 1998.

PRICE INCLUDES
- Various regional departure points
- Three nights' hotel accommodation
- Breakfast during stay
- Full-day excursion to Giverny
- Services of a tour manager

Price based on two people sharing a twin/double room. Single supplement £50.

*For further details send coupon to:*
**The Times Monet's Gardens, Festive Holidays Limited, Pate Court, North Place, Cheltenham, Glos GL50 4DY**

*The Times Monet's Gardens*
Please send me further information
Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) .....
Address .....
.....
.....
Postcode .....
You may be sent further information on offers and services which may be of interest to you. If you do not wish to participate please tick box. ☐
ASTA V108X

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CALL NOW ON 0990 553 355 (24 HRS)

This holiday is operated by Festive Holidays Limited, a company independent of Times Newspapers Limited

CHANGING TIMES

Office, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998.

هكذا من الأصل

says Jane O



# Orchids come down to earth

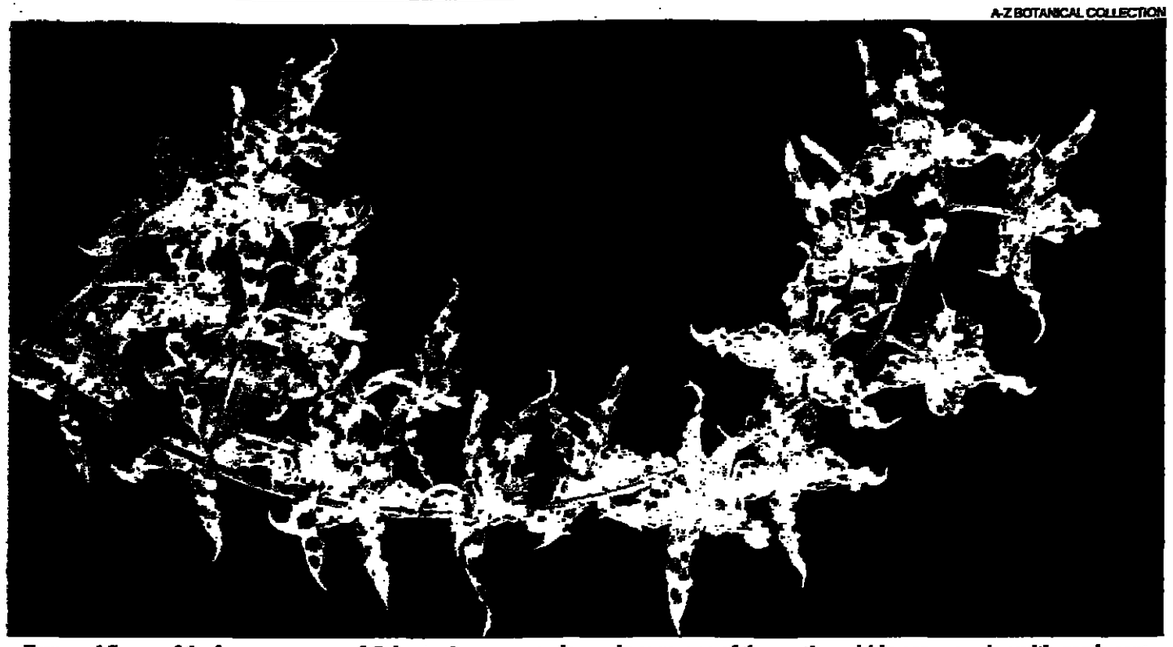
**These exotic blooms are no longer an exclusive preserve of the rich and famous, says Sue Corbett**

GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY



The slipper orchid (*Paphiopedilum* 'Emerald x Voodoo Magic')

A-Z BOTANICAL COLLECTION



Favoured flower of the famous: a spray of *Odontoglossum x andersonianum*, one of the exotic orchids now popular with gardeners

After the mad rush for mail-order business at Christmas, Britain's orchid growers might have been hoping for a bit of a lull before the build-up to Valentine's Day. But with Elton John's knighthood in the New Year's Honours List, it was not to be. A further flurry of activity replaced the longed-for pause as congratulatory potted orchids winged their way to this most celebrated of orchidomanes.

Sir Elton's friend, the late Diana, Princess of Wales, was also a recipient of these exotic blooms when ballet dancer Wayne Sleep sent her potted orchids on her last birthday.

Orchid plants are a regular focal point in Sir Elton's houses at Windsor and Holland Park, London. Some are gifts, but Julia Wigan and Susie Hill of Bloomingdale Flowers, who work exclusively for him, also buy from Stonehurst Nurseries in Ardingly, West Sussex, or from Arnott & Mason, New Covent Garden Market, southwest London.

"Orchids are definitely getting more popular," says Ms Wigan. "People aren't quite as scared of them as they used to be and, whereas 30 years ago lots of people had gardeners, now orchids are a personal challenge. If you're given a wonderful orchid and you can get it to flower again yourself, you do feel it is an achievement."

The notion of the orchid being a rich man's hobby was fostered by the likes of oil magnate Nubar Gulbenkian, who wore a fresh odontoglossum orchid in his buttonhole each day, even when out foxhunting. And, while it is still true that the 3ft cymbidium orchids look spectacular in the large rooms of the rich and famous, thanks to test-tube propagation, orchids are now within financial reach of many more of us.

"We use paphiopedilum [the slipper orchid] and a wonderful orchid called oncidium, which looks like a butterfly," says Ms Wigan. "We do occasionally use cut orchids but it's an expensive way of doing it. If you look after orchid plants properly, they go on and on flowering, so to cut them is a bit of a sin. Once the flowers have gone, most orchids rest for a year before flowering again.

"In his drawing room in London, Elton has a jardinière that is often full of orchids, and it looks absolutely wonderful. We don't display a vulgar number together and we always have them on their own, orchids with orchids, just one type per display. Some of the phalaenopses [moth orchids], the big, flat-faced ones, are so beautiful, they're like paintings. If you started mixing them you would lose the beauty of that particular flower."

Orchids have another attraction, too, as Bruce Oldfield, the fashion designer, points out: "Besides being elegant, beautiful and sophisticated, orchids don't create powdery pollen," he says, "which is the practical reason why I love them. I suffer very badly from hay fever. I can't be in the same room as most flowers, but an orchid or anything that is pure foliage is fine."

Enthusiasm for the orchid is growing. Last year the RHS's London Orchid Show had twice the number of visitors as the year before. According to Dr Henry Oakeley, chairman of the RHS Orchid Committee: "Growing orchids as house plants has really taken off over the past five years. The range available is increasing enormously. It used to be just big cymbidiums, which are rather bulky unless you have Elton John's mansion. Now there are smaller orchids like phalaenopses that will flower for three or four months continuously on a windowsill."

It is important not to overwater your orchids, but if you keep them over-dry, they will dehydrate. So how can you get it right? Says Jim Durrant of McBean's Orchids, Cooksbridge, East Sussex: "If you are growing things like moth orchids in the house, they will usually be a bit dry, so we suggest standing the pot on a small tray with pebbles in it and keeping the pebbles slightly damp. Make sure the plant can't absorb any of the moisture, but create a microclimate around it. If you put a couple of ferns in with the orchid, it helps to increase humidity. For the moth orchid, central heating is no problem — it likes as much heat as you can give it. But when the heating cuts out at night, the plant must not be near a window.

"For cymbidiums, which are cooler-growing, it is often too warm during the day in modern houses. The pre-central heating days were perfect for them, but it is now too hot and dry for mini and standard cymbidiums, so we recommend that people put them in a conservatory with a little bit of heat or in a hallway that's not too warm."

Brian Rittershausen of Burnham Nurseries, Newton Abbot, agrees. "There are probably more people growing orchids than ever before," he says, "even if they've only got one plant on the windowsill. And the windowsill is fine as a position, so long as, when you draw the curtains at night, the plants are on the room side.

"For the cool-growing orchids a minimum of 50F [10C] on the coolest night is best, with a daytime maximum of 75F [24C]. The warmer-growing orchids such as the phalaenopses should not drop below 65F [18C] at night or rise above 80F [26C] in the daytime. They should be kept out of the sun, but they do need good light.

"You have to remember that orchids like to be kept evenly moist all the time. But when growing, they require more water as they dry out more quickly."

It may sound a tricky balance, but it is one that any gardener is familiar with trying to achieve. Get it right and you can enjoy the "rich man's hobby" for years.



Nature's art: phalaenopsis

**READER OFFER**

THE orchid houses of the RHS Garden at Wisley, Woking, Surrey, provide the backdrop to the "Orchids for All" season of lectures, demonstrations and plant sales, from today until January 25. Cut out this box and present it at Wisley before the end of next Saturday (January 24), and two people can enter the garden and tour the orchid houses for £5, the normal price for one adult. Sundays are for members and one guest only. For further details call 01483 224234.

**ORCHID FILE**



Sir Elton John: orchidomane

■ The Orchid Society of Great Britain has about 1,000 members. The secretary is B. Arnold, Athelney, 145 Binscombe Village, Godalming, Surrey GU7 3QL. Joining fee £5, annual subscription £10.

■ Orchid Paradise, Burnham Nurseries Ltd, Forches Cross, Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 6PZ (01626 352233) is open daily, 10am-4pm, except for winter bank holidays. Three flowering-size phalaenopses cost about £40, including p&p.

■ "Orchids for All" at the RHS Garden, Wisley, Woking, Surrey (01483 224234), until Jan 25, includes a lecture on orchids as house plants by Jim Durrant of McBean's Orchids and a "back to basics" demonstration by Brian Rittershausen of Burnham Nurseries.

■ *Elton John's Flower Fantasies* by Caroline Cass (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.99) illustrates floral displays at the singer's Windsor home.

■ McBean's Orchids, Cooksbridge, Lewes, East Sussex BN8 4PR (01273 400228), sells orchids, orchid fertilisers and orchid composts to personal shoppers and by post. A starter collection of three moth orchid plants (one in flower/flower spike and two nearing maturity) costs £29.95 (delivery included).

■ Stonehurst Nurseries, Ardingly, West Sussex (01444 892488).

■ Arnott & Mason, New Covent Garden Market, London SW8 (0171-720 7651).

■ Cox & Kings (0171-873 5000) offers tours of Costa Rica, highlighting the country's 1,100-plus orchid species. From £1,295.

■ The RHS London Orchid Show takes place at the Horticultural Halls, Westminster, SW1, on March 7 and 8 (0171-834 4333).

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

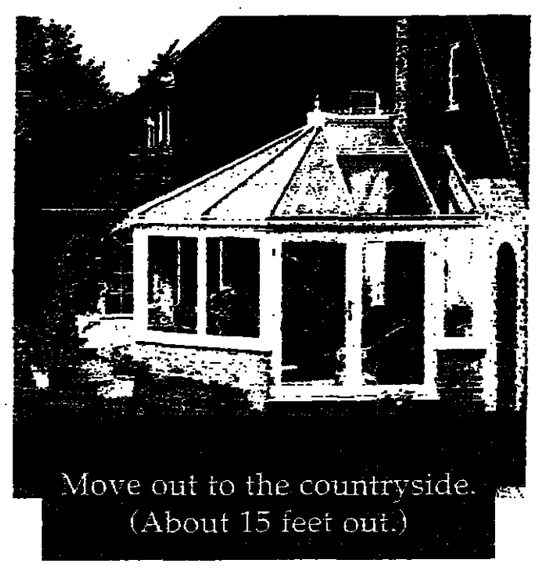
HOMES & GARDENS

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

COUNTAX Britain's Best Selling Garden Tractor
With quality of cut to match the best roller mower
it collects completely even in the wet leaving that desirable striped finish. Riders and tractors for gardens from 1/3rd acre upwards. Ask for a demonstration.
Send for brochure and name of nearest dealer.
To: Countax, FREEPOST, Great Hasley, Oxford OX44 7BR
Name
Address
Postcode
Please arrange a Demonstration ☐
FREE 0500 279927
Rider models from £1495
POWERED BY BRIGGS & STRATTON T134 Tel

F&S Original Cast-Iron Lampposts
F&S Lighting
on 01706 527155

LEAKING FLAT ROOFS
AT LAST A LONG TERM SOLUTION
• LATEST FIBREGLASS TECHNOLOGY
• GUARANTEED FOR 25 YEARS
• INSTALLED BY PROFESSIONALS
FOR FREE QUOTE & SURVEY WITHOUT OBLIGATION
TEL 01376 347666
(24 HOUR ANSWERING SERVICE) OR COMPLETE THE COUPON BELOW
PIONEER ROOF SYSTEMS, FREEPOST (RG206) Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1ZZ TT 03
Please send me details of Pioneer Roof Systems
Commercial ☐ Domestic ☐
NAME
ADDRESS
POST CODE
TEL. NO (No representative will call)
PIONEER ROOF SYSTEMS 14 BENFIELD WAY, BRAINTREE, ESSEX CM7 3YS




You can have all the benefits of a leafier, more rural location, by simply moving to another room when you own a BAC conservatory.

Light and airy, the scenery is provided by the natural beauty of your garden and gives your present home a whole new lease of life. The extra space it creates can be used in so many ways. One minute it's the perfect place to entertain, the next a wonderful play area for the children. And what better place could there be to relax in?

BAC provide a service from concept to completion. Specify any style or design you wish, in either woodgrain or white PVC-U, or rich, natural Hardwood.

Moving to the countryside isn't as far as you think with a BAC conservatory. Visit our new Showcentre in Oxford or for further information, Freephone 0800 666 444. BAC CONSERVATORIES

FREEPHONE 0800 666 444 TODAY
Open every day including Sunday - 24 hours

Name SAT. TI. 17/1/98
Telephone (Hm.) (Wk.)
Address
Postcode
BAC Limited, Freepost, Romford, RM7 1BR. (No stamp required). Please ensure that you complete the coupon fully to help us process your enquiry promptly.



SNOWDROPS IN THE GREEN OFFER
Snowdrops "Galanthus Nivalis" are a must for the early Spring Garden. If you would like a drift of these, it will soon be time to plant them - whilst the leaves are still green. Today, we are offering 100 bulbs for only £9.95, or 200 for £17.95 including postage direct from the nursery. They are ideal for planting under deciduous trees or shrubs and compliment Winter Aconites and Cyclamen. Phone now on 0181 427 2855 or fill in the coupon. For more details of summer flowering bulbs why not ring or write for our free colour catalogue. 400 items to choose from and 300 superb photos. Bulbs from the experts, 15x Chelsea Gold Medalists. The plants will be dispatched in February. Full cultural instructions. Money back if not satisfied.
PHONE 0181 427 3968
Post to: Jacques Amand Snowdrops 135 The Nurseries, Clamp Hill Stanmore, Middx. HA7 3JS
Name:
Address:
Postcode Tel:
I enclose a cross cheque payable to J.AMAND LTD for £
or debit my Access/Visa account by £
Card No
Expiry Date

SUPERIOR QUALITY CRAFTSMAN MADE WROUGHT IRON GATES
GIANT WINTER SALE All at Factory Prices
DIRECT FROM BRITAINS LARGEST MANUFACTURER
NO MIDDLEMANS PROFITS
HUGE SELECTION ALWAYS IN STOCK
See the largest range of high quality, low cost, wrought iron and timber gates in the UK. Prices start at just £20. Over 500,000 satisfied customers. You buy direct from the factory at factory prices. Nationwide 7 day delivery.
FACTORY PRICES FROM JUST £20
• EASY TO FIT • SINGLE & DOUBLE • HIGH & LOW GATES
FINEST QUALITY WROUGHT IRON GATES
FREE 36 PAGE COLOUR CATALOGUE OVER 200 DESIGNS & SIZES TO CHOOSE FROM
VISIT OUR FACTORY SHOP AND DISPLAY GARDEN - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK MONDAY - SATURDAY 9am - 5pm. SUNDAY 10am - 4pm
24 HOUR CATALOGUE PHONELINE 01543 462500 Quote Dept TT0498
or write to: CANNOCK GATES LTD. (Dept TT0498), HAWKS GREEN, CANNOCK, STAFFS WS11 2XT.
If you do not wish to receive mailings from carefully selected companies please advise us.
UK MAINLAND ONLY

GARAGES - SPECIAL PRICES
PLUS BETTER CHOICE & QUALITY BETTER GUARANTEE BETTER SERVICE MAINTENANCE FREE AND FREE DELIVERY
FOR FREE BROCHURE 24 HOURS 01295 770873 or write to: Compton Buildings Ltd. (Dept. 0878) FREEPOST (LON) Fossy Compton, LEAMINGTON SPA, CV33 9BR
MARKET LEADERS Compton

WINTER Conservatory Blind Sale 50% off
5 year Guarantee Interest-Free Finance Available (written details on request)
CALL 0345 023980
for a brochure or an appointment to view our latest collection
Town & Country U.K. Ltd.

Scalewatcher
The Smart Solution to Flood Water
Scalewatcher detects the build-up of scale and starts to save you money from the first day
CLEARS OLD SCALE
PREVENTS NEW SCALE
5 YEAR GUARANTEE
GUARANTEED TO WORK EFFECTIVELY OR YOUR FULL MONEY BACK
FOR DETAILS FREEPHONE 0500 001109
Fast Systems Ltd., FREEPOST (RG206) Henley-on-Thames, Oxon RG9 1ZZ
☐ Please send colour brochure and prices
☐ Please contact me to arrange a free on-site demonstration
Name TIM 20
Address
Postcode
Tel No:
Scalewatcher THE MARKET LEADER IN ELECTRONIC SCALE PREVENTION

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

# HOMES & GARDENS

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1920 FAX: 0171 481 9313

## RISING DAMP? CONDENSATION?

*Talk to the specialists*

Wallguard understand damp. Our specialist surveyors will tell you where the problem lies.

**TWO WAYS TO TACKLE DAMP**

1 If rising damp is your problem the patented Wallguard Ceramic Tube System will tackle it. The neat, unobtrusive ceramic tubes are usually fitted outside so internal walls and decorations are not disturbed. The system has been in use in Westminster Abbey since 1952!



2 Condensation in individual rooms is dealt with by the patented Wallguard Trickle Ventilator. It takes the damp vapours through the wall to discharge harmlessly into the outside air – without causing draughts or heat loss.



NO MAINTENANCE, NO RUNNING COSTS & ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

*Local Authority & Building Society Approved*

**WALLGUARD**

YOU'RE HOME AND DRY

*For further details or to arrange for a survey*

PHONE FREE ON **0800 508608**

*or use the coupon, there's no postage to pay*

Send to Wallguard Limited, Freepost MR 8787 Manchester M16 8BR. E-Mail sales@wallguard.co.uk http://www.wallguard.co.uk Available in Ireland & The Channel Islands

☐ I need a damp proof course survey ☐ I have a damp problem ☐ I have a condensation problem TT3

Name _____

Telephone _____

Address _____

_____ Postcode _____

Send to: WALLGUARD LTD, FREEPOST MR 8787, MANCHESTER M16 8BR.

## SCATTER



**Clears Cats from your garden**

NIGHT AND DAY, EVERY DAY

Unique programme of computer-controlled ultrasound expels cats from lawns, flower beds, shrubberies, walls and patios

Not Affected by Weather

Scatter transmits random bursts of ultrasound at a frequency that cats avoid. They'll turn away long before they expose themselves to its full impact, so that it works where fences or netting fail. Fully automatic - no sensors to go wrong. Highly reliable, fully weatherproofed miniature computer circuit.

"Scatter is the only one that works" Classic FM Gardener's Forum 11th April 1997

*SWITCH* between low-voltage mains or battery operation at will. *NO* affect on birds or other pets. *INAUDIBLE* to humans. Scatter is completely safe. Installed in minutes. Try it for 90 days - 5 year guarantee

**FREEPHONE 0800 282824 FOR FREE BROCHURE** LINES OPEN 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS

CLEARFLOW LTD, 47-48 High St, Hungerford, Berks RG17 0NE
Tel: 01488 687606 Fax: 01488 685411 TRADE and OVERSEAS enquiries welcomed

## JANUARY SALE 30% MORE PLANTS

TOUGH, HARDY, FAST GROWING, IMPENETRABLE FLOWERING & FRUITING HEDGING

*Police Recommended Security*



**ROSEWALL**

ROSES Supplied Exclusively By BRAMLEY'S

*FAST BECOMING BRITAIN'S FAVOURITE HEDGING*

13 (Normally 10) £9.95 ENOUGH FOR 26 FEET
26 (Normally 20) £16.30
65 (Normally 50) £30.50
ALL ORDERS PLUS £2.95 p&p

★ Rich Magenta and Gold Rose blooms up to 3" across
★ Wonderfully fragrant
★ Security of Thick, Vital
★ Protects plants from Winter Wind
★ Grows to 3-4ft within 12 months
★ Grows well no matter how poor your soil

Colourful, fragrant, "ROSEWALL" rapidly reaches 7ft. high, and is so easy to grow. Plant 10 to 20ins apart, or for a really thick hedge plant in 2 parallel rows. Keeps animals and intruders out. Delicious jelly rich in vitamin "C" can be made from fruits of Rosewall. No complicated pruning – just clip to desired height.

POST YOUR ORDER NOW!

**BRAMLEY'S NURSERIES** (173) 331 BENFLEET ROAD • SOUTH BENFLEET • ESSEX

CALLERS WELCOME OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

## HARD WATER

*The Scientific Solution*



**Incredible low-cost computer technology! Krystal electronic water softeners treat a whole house for less than £80 – guaranteed for five years.**

**DISSOLVES** existing limescale from pipes, tanks, boilers and showers.

**IMPROVES** water's kindness to skin and hair. More lather from less soap!

**INHIBITS** limescale in kettles and appliances, and on baths and basins.

**SAVES** on detergents and cuts use of descaling compounds and cleaning time.

**PRESERVES** health-giving natural substances in your water.

**DIY INSTALLATION** in minutes - no plumbing - minimum space needed.

FREEPHONE **0800 590050** FOR FREE BROCHURE

*Lines open 24 hours, 7 days*

GUARANTEED FOR FIVE YEARS

Clearflow Ltd, 47-48 High St, Hungerford, Berks RG17 0NE Tel: 01488 687606 Fax: 01488 685411 TRADE AND OVERSEAS ENQUIRIES WELCOMED

90 DAYS HOME TRIAL

Krystal needs no maintenance or chemicals; Krystal is the cleanest, greenest solution to hard-water problems ever devised!



## BEAT THE DROUGHT

Specialists in top water catchment & rainfall conservation.

Above or below ground storage facilities.

Specifically designed for domestic or commercial use.

Save 1000's of gallons annually. Contact

RAINFALL CONSERVATION SYSTEMS
0113 248 6456 (24hrs) or 0113 248 8026

## ONLY £95 DEPOSIT*



"Churchill's are the only stairlift company I trust, and I recommend them to you" DAME THORA HIRD

special offer

Phone now free! and Churchill's will give you a 30 day money back guarantee*

• Installation often within 3 days • Most stairs fitted • Value guaranteed

**Call Churchill's 0800 371 982**

Call FREE now and ask for Christine, Clare or Jean for a FREE home consultation 7 DAYS A WEEK 9AM-6PM

Nationwide 7 day service

**Churchill's Stairlifts plc** THE STAIRLIFT EXPERTS

*applies only to promotional new straight kits

## WATCH OUT THIEVES ABOUT




**GUARDIAN SECURITY SHUTTERS HELP KEEP YOUR HOME & POSSESSIONS SAFE & SOUND**

*Fitted to your windows and doors they are the ideal deterrent for* thieves or intruders. No wonder over 25 million homeowners throughout Europe are now enjoying the peace of mind Security Shutters can bring. Fully fitted by our team of installers in a choice of colours, either electronically or manually operated... they are the ideal solution for home security.

- Made from tough, high Security, maintenance - free aluminium.
- Durable stove-enamelled finish. Available in a range of colours.
- Fully installed by Guardian's own highly skilled craftsmen.

*FOR A FREE BROCHURE RING*

**01484 461010** 0171 581 4443 NORTH SOUTH

*OR RETURN THE COUPON BELOW WITHOUT OBLIGATION*

FREEPOST • SEND TODAY • NO STAMP REQUIRED

Post to: GUARDIAN SECURITY SHUTTERS, FREEPOST, HF3 118, HUDDERSFIELD, HD3 3LL

MR/MRS/MS _____

TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

_____

POSTCODE _____

GUARDIAN YOUR PROPERTY PROTECTOR

TT17/1/98

## NEW! THE AMAZING PATIO PEACH

GROW INDOORS OR OUT

Easy even in poor soils. Completely frost hardy. A charming vigorous novelty. FREE growing hints. Choose from PEACH, CHERRY, PEAR, APPLE, PLUM, NECTARINE, APRICOT and ALMOND.

£12 each, Any 3 for £25, 5 or more just £6 each.

**SPECIAL HALF-PRICE OFFER**

DUAL & TRIPLE BUDDED FRUIT TREES

**THREE** DIFFERENT VARIETIES **ON ONE TREE!**




*Choose from Triple Apple (Cox, James Grieve, Russett); Dual Pear (Conference & Louise); Dual Plum (Various); Dual Cherry (Van & Napoleon)*

List price is £24, but you can buy at our SPECIAL OFFER SALE PRICE of just £12 each or any 2 or more at £10 each

3 DIFFERENT, SUCCULENT TASTES AND TEXTURES ON ONE TREE

All prices include P&P

CHEQUES/P.O.'S TO: **PLANTWORLD** Times Offer No. 3

Burnham Road, South Woodham, Essex CM3 5QP

## AMERICAN SPAS

Therapeutic whirlpool massage that's out of this world! Imported direct for huge savings.

FREEPHONE 0800 7314601 Fax: 01722-414165

## SIMULATED SECURITY TV CAMERA



ONLY £37.95 + £2.05 p&p

CONTINUOUS FLASHING RED LED LAMP

This solid, robust, 0.7kg metal unit will give the impression that your home or premises are under constant video surveillance. To give a totally realistic appearance it is fitted with continuously flashing high intensity red LED lamp, powered by one AA battery (included) which lasts approx. 1 year. Without question this is the most realistic simulated unit on the market. It comes complete with fixing screws and plugs, transfers and a window sticker highlighting the fact that your premises are protected by security cameras.

*Keep thieves at bay - order today!*

*Money Back Guarantee*

24 hr Credit Card Hotline

**01483 268888**

Quote No. DIY/8 J.E.M. Marketing, Dept. DIY/8, Little Mead, Cranleigh, Surrey, GU6 8ND

## 100 SPRING PLANTS FOR JUST £9.75



Including Delivery

PLUS 20 FREE

Plan early for spring with easy to grow BUSY LIZZIES (IMPATIENS) Always popular with gardeners they will look dazzling in beds, borders, tubs, hanging baskets and window boxes in a variety of shades including pink, salmon, scarlet, rose and white.

PETUNIA MIXED with distinctive large blooms in colours such as blue, white, salmon, some with clear white stars or darker background.

ORDER NOW, PAY LATER:-

All orders will be despatched end April early May by first class post in a protective box to ensure you receive your plants in good condition. On arrival they will be ready for growing on indoors and transplanted following instructions provided. An invoice confirming your order will be sent to you payable early March. SEND YOUR ORDER NOW

POST FREE TO:-
SOLENT NURSERIES LTD
FREEPOST
SOUTHAMPTON
SO31 6AA
TELEPHONE 01489 599181

| | |
|---|---|
| 120 Busy Lizzies | £9.75 |
| 120 Petunias | £9.75 |

Please clearly state order required and include name and address and Tel No.

Please write within 7 days for a full refund replacement if not completely satisfied.

## BLOOMS of Bressingham

**Dwarf Herbaceous Border Collection**

*15 plants for just £14.95*

Enjoy effortless colour in your garden with our superb Dwarf Herbaceous Border Collection. The mainstay of any garden, these hardy perennials are *ideal for providing* ground colour in beds, borders, rockeries and edges all year round. Our charming collection comprises of 15 plants ranging from 5cm to 50cm in height and includes: Anacyclus depressus - white, grows to 20cm in height; Achillea Tomentosa - better known as Yarrow with gold/yellow flowers, grows to 20cm in height; Leontopodium Alpinum - clusters of small silvery white flowers amid lance-shaped woolly leaves, grows to 20cm in height; Papaver Alpine - better known as the Alpine Poppy, grows to 20cm tall, mixed colours; Potentilla Aurea - yellow flowers, grows to 15cm in height; Teucrium Chamaedrys - rose coloured, grows to 25cm in height; Anemone Sylvestris - white bell-like flowers, grows to 30cm in height; Hypericum Calycinum - golden yellow in colour, grows to 30cm in height; Dianthus Arenarius - white, grows to 10cm in height; Armeria Maritime Pink - rose coloured, grows to 20cm in height; Sagina Subulata - white, grows to 5cm in height; Sedum Species - grows to 15cm in height, mixed colours; Dwarf Penstamon Cambridge - grows to 30cm in height, mixed colours; Gypsophila repens White - semi-evergreen with sprays of white flowers, grows to 15cm; Veronica Shirley Blue - grows to 50cm in height, blue coloured.

Our Dwarf Herbaceous Border Collection will be despatched in March, the plants will arrive in 9cm pots, ready for planting straight into your garden, following our border plan and horticultural instructions provided.



Offer subject to availability. All orders will be acknowledged.

GUARANTEE

- We underline our commitment to service, quality and variety by offering twelve months guarantee on all our plants.
- Price includes delivery.
- You can return within 14 days for a full refund or replacement if not completely satisfied.

BLOOMS of Bressingham

01245 326004 24 hour credit card order service

Dwarf Border Offer, Blooms of Bressingham, Mail Order, Admail 965 (Bressingham), Diss, Norfolk IP22 2BR. We deliver to all addresses in the UK, including Northern Ireland. Offer subject to availability. Available only through our Mail Order Division. TIDH2

*Please send me: ____ Dwarf Herbaceous Border Collection(s) of 15 plants @ £14.95 each, including delivery.*

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

I enclose crossed cheque/postal order (address on back) for £_____ made

Card No: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Orders to: Dwarf Border OFFER, BLOOMS OF BRESSINGHAM, Mail Order, Admail 965 (Bressingham), Diss, Norfolk, IP22 2BR.

Blooms of Bressingham Mail Order is a division of DPA Direct Ltd. If you do not wish to receive future offers from companies approved by DPA Direct Ltd, please tick here ☐

Reg. Address: DPA Direct Ltd, 25 Horsehills Road, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 5PA Reg No 2764130

TIDH2

## The World's Largest Illustrated Seed Catalogue

With over 2000 flower and vegetable varieties, including many new and exclusive items for 1998, the Thompson and Morgan Seed Catalogue is the most comprehensive guide to gardening. Available now!

Thompson & Morgan

THOMPSON & MORGAN (UK) LTD. REF: TT98-02, POPLAR LANE, IPSWICH, IP8 3BU. TEL: 01473 601090 FAX: 01473 680199

## FREEDOM & INDEPENDENCE

Enjoy life to the full with our complete range of vehicles designed to take your wherever you want to go.



☎ - 01753 647 435 or write to:

AUTOMOBILITY DIRECT
PO Box 265, SLOUGH SL2 3RX

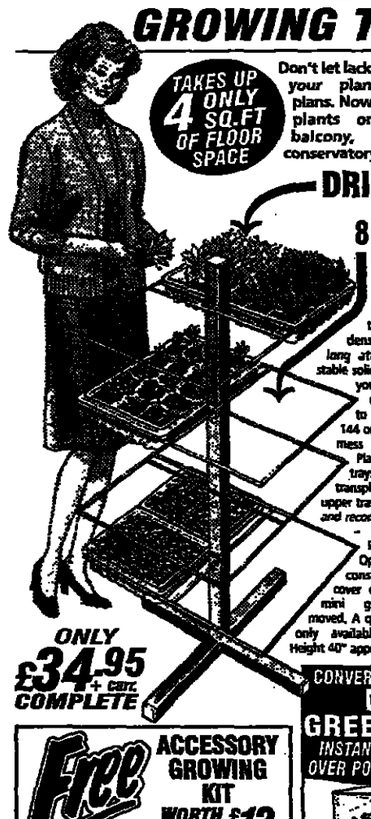
## IDEAL X-MAS GIFT

# Space Saving Propagating & Growing Systems!

DUAL PURPOSE **PROPAGATING TOWER**

* MINI GREENHOUSE *

**HOLDS 8 FULL SIZE GROWING TRAYS**



TAKES UP 4 ONLY SQ.FT OF FLOOR SPACE

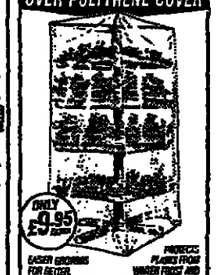
Don't let lack of space restrict your plant propagation plans. Now grow favourite plants on your patio, balcony, in your conservatory or garden.

**DRIP TRAYS** FIT INTO ALL 8 FRAME SECTIONS AND HOLD SEED & GROWING UNITS!

Strong steel construction, coated throughout in high density polythene for a long attractive life, with a stable solid base. We supply all you need (excluding compost and seeds) to grow and cultivate 144 or more plants with no mess or drying out. Plant seeds in bottom trays, when germinated, transplant to cell units in upper trays. Replant seed trays and recommence growing cycle - The Non Stop Propagation System! Optional, specially constructed polythene cover converts unit into a mini green-house. Easily moved. A quality British product only available by mail order. Height 40" approx.

ONLY £34.95 + carr. COMPLETE

CONVERTS TO A SUPER MINI GREENHOUSE INSTANTLY WITH SLIP OVER POLYTHENE COVER



Free ACCESSORY GROWING KIT WORTH £12

KIT INCLUDES:

PACK OF 8 DRIP TRAYS

PACK OF 12 12 CELL UNITS
*PLANT SEEDS DIRECTLY or TRANSPLANT 144. SEEDLINGS FROM SEED TRAYS*

PACK OF 4 SEED TRAYS

1M (3'3") CAPILLARY MATTING
Line drip trays, stops mess, absorbs water, prevents plants drying out.

ONLY £9.95 carr.

EASIER GROWING FOR BETTER STRONGER PLANTS

PROTECTS PLANTS FROM WINTER FROST AND EXCESSIVE WINDS & SUN

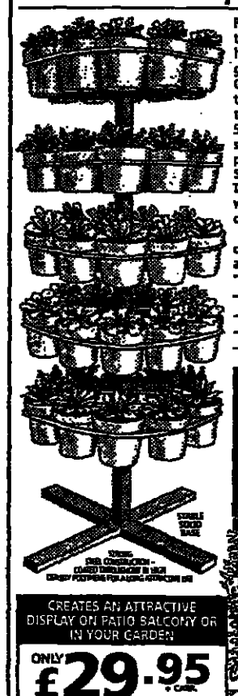
*SAVE YOUR FAVOURITE TENDER AND HALF HARDY PLANTS THIS YEAR*

Rigid top frame, 500gsm polythene with ventilation hole. Shaded blue to diffuse the rays of the sun to prevent cooking plants. Complete with pegs to secure in strong winds.

**GREENHOUSE POT-TIDY** AND PATIO AND CONSERVATORY STAND

**Holds a fantastic 50 Plant Pots**

**TAKES UP ONLY 2 sq ft OF FLOOR SPACE**



Potting-on small plants brings pleasure to many gardeners but we all know how much room is taken up in the greenhouse by all those pots. The Greenhouse Space Saver Pot Tidy solves this problem instantly. Each of the 5 tiers holds 10 x 3" or 4" pots, so that's 50 in all. Ideal for cuttings and raising seedlings throughout the seasons, then potting on and plant display through Spring and Summer.

Take outside to take advantage of rain water or to avoid making a mess in conservatory when watering. Height 45".

Creates a really attractive display in conservatory, patio or garden. Packs away neatly when not in use.

IDEAL XMAS GIFT

EASILY MOVED FOR:
- WATERING • RAINWATER
- SUN OR SHADE
- SPACE & LABOUR SAVER

SPECIAL OFFER 50 FREE 3" PLANT POTS WORTH £10

CREATES AN ATTRACTIVE DISPLAY ON PATIO BALCONY OR IN YOUR GARDEN

ONLY £29.95 + carr. COMPLETE

Please allow 14 days for home delivery. Money back if not delighted.

Post Orders to: Cornhill Marketing Limited, (Dept TT85), 10 Lowes Lane Industrial Estate, Wellesbourne, Warwicks CV35 9RB.

To: CORNHILL MARKETING LIMITED, (Dept TT85), 10 Lowes Lane Industrial Estate, Wellesbourne, Warwicks CV35 9RB. PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Please send me:

Qty. ____ PROPAGATING TOWER(S) at £34.95 + £2.95 carr. (Total £37.90) INCLUDING ACCESSORY GROWING KIT WORTH £12 SENT FREE WITH ORDER.

Qty. ____ CONVERT TOWER INTO A MINI GREENHOUSE SLIP OVER POLYTHENE COVER(S) at £9.95 POST FREE when ordered with Tower.

Qty. ____ GREENHOUSE SPACE SAVER POT TIDY(S) at £29.95 + £2.95 carr. (Total £32.90) INCLUDING 50 x 3" POTS WORTH £10 – SENT FREE WITH ORDER.

I enclose a Cheque/P.O. for £_____ or charge my Access/Visa/Delta/Switch Account.

My Card No. is

Expiry Date: _____ Signature: _____

Switch Card Issue No. _____

Name: Mr/Mrs/Ms _____

Address: _____

_____

Post Code: _____

FROM TIME TO TIME WE MAKE OUR MAILING LIST AVAILABLE TO OTHER COMPANIES WHO MAY MAKE OFFERS OF INTEREST TO YOU. IF YOU DO NOT WISH US TO DO THIS, PLEASE SEND YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO CORNHILL MARKETING LTD.

Co. Reg. No. 1634954

## AN AGRIFRAMES SPECIAL OFFER FOR JANUARY

# Over 40% off SPUN WEB FLEECE

**THE VERSATILE ALL YEAR WEATHER PROTECTION FOR YOUR PRECIOUS PLANTS AND SEEDLINGS**

Now is the time to prepare for the Spring months ahead, and no gardener should be without a roll or two of this wonderfully versatile fleece.

Think of it as a gossamer light duvet for plants. Warm, soft, strong, permeable and translucent – it allows plants to flourish and grow while protecting them from birds, insects and the worst of the winter rains and frost. A single layer of spun web fleece can provide frost protection down to 29°F (3 degrees of frost) – a double layer down to 6 degrees of frost. Use it to help protect your precious half-hardy plants and climbers. Drape it over vulnerable seedlings and newly sown grass or as a low cost 'cloche' to extend the growing season and bring on early flowers and vegetables.

Additionally use under glass to reduce heating bills and give shade from the sun.

Now you can save over 40% on our big value 12m x 1.5m (40ft x 5ft) approx. roll when you order before the special offer closes on 31st January 1998.



SPUN WEB FLEECE ROLLS 12m x 1.5m (40ft x 5ft)

BIG VALUE 12 METRE (40FT) ROLL

CATALOGUE PRICE ~~£14.20~~ INC. P&P

NOW ONLY £7.95 inc. P&P

PACK OF 20 OPTIONAL FIXING PEGS £2.99 inc. P&P

THE IDEAL GROWING ENVIRONMENT

**FROST** A warm, snug, frost resistant cocoon for your plants.

**RAIN** Allows water penetration while preventing damage from heavy rain.

**SUN** Deflects harmful rays. Provides cooling shade. Promotes water retention

**BIRDS & INSECTS:** Provides extra protection from greedy birds and flying insects.

*Agriframes*

*"Offer applies to UK mainland only"*

*Your money refunded if not delighted -return unused within 14 days*

Normal despatch within 5 days but please allow up to 28 days for delivery

Agriframes Ltd, Charlwoods Road, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 2HP. The company is registered under the Data Protection Acts 1984 Registered in England 1082230

ORDER NOW - OFFER ENDS JANUARY 31ST.

Please send _____ (qty) of SPUN WEB FLEECE at £7.95 inc. P&P.

Please send _____ (qty) of packs of 20 FIXING PEGS at £2.99 inc. P&P.

Send cheque to Agriframes Ltd, Charlwoods Rd, East Grinstead, Sussex RH19 2HP.

Or charge MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Switch ☐ Total £ _____

_____ Expires _____

Name _____ Switch Issue No. _____

Address _____

_____

Postcode _____ Tel: _____

Please tick here if you do not wish to receive other mail offers from selected companies ☐ Registered in England: 1082230 VAT Number: 210333003

4846

MASTERCARD / VISA / SWITCH ORDER ☎ 01342 310021 (24hrs) FAX: 01342 310099.

## THE ENDLESS POOL



- Counter-current swimming gives unlimited swimming in a pool only 15' x 8'.
- Current speed adjustable to individual requirements
- Complete kit for £12,500 + VAT for all year indoor swimming permits total cost less than any comparable conventional pool.
- Operation and heating costs under £5.00 per week.

Full information from:

ENDLESS POOLS™ SWIMMING MACHINES

Tel: 01420 561266 Fax: 01420 561277

Quality Bulbs Established Supplier

## SNOWDROPS IN THE GREEN

| | |
|---|---|
| Single Snowdrops and Double Snowdrops and Autumns | £3.50 per 50, £6.50 per 100 |
| Winter Daffodils | £4.50 per 50, £8.50 per 100 |
| Snowflakes | £5.00 for 25, £5.00 per 20, £5.00 per 10 |

All bulbs freshly lifted for each order. *Please add £1 towards p&p.*

*Cheques & postal orders to:*

A.Brown. A.B. Nurseries, Dept TT, 27 Westmead Avenue, Wisbech, Cambs. PE13 2SL. *Tel: 01945 465310*

## WARWICK BUILDINGS



0% Winter Discounts

- STUDIOS
- SUMMERHOUSES
- WORKROOMS
- GARAGES
- STABLING

(Please specify which brochure)

SHOW SITE - SOUTHAM ROAD, LONG ITCHINGTON, NR RUGBY WARWICKSHIRE CV23 8QL

TEL: 01926 815757 FAX: 01926 815162

ORDER BY PHONE 24 HOUR SERVICE

**01789 470 055**

Telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998 Registered at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل



'Boar-hunting is on its way to corporate hospitality status, as city-weary executives are bussed in to take a pot-shot at old piggy'

# How to tame a tyrant: eat him

DOWN TO EARTH



PAUL HEINEY

Did I ever tell you about the time I met Mussolini? I can't remember whether Hitler was with him, but he was certainly skulking around somewhere. Then Tamburlaine, the ruthless 14th-century conqueror of Asia, turned up, just to add an edge to the already threatening meeting. But I have to say that Mussolini was the least agreeable of the lot. He spent a lot of time in a corner: watching, weighing us up, charting every move, ready to kill.

They were all wild boars, kept by Sam Olive, a farmer in Hampshire, who crossed them with the offspring of a large white pig and a saddleback to produce some of the finest-tasting, most silky-smooth and moist pork I have ever eaten.

But this does not mean that wild boars are as sweet as their meat. They are not particularly pleasant creatures, which was why Mr Olive named them after tyrants. He'd also had a Lech and a Batori. If you came face to face with Mussolini in a lonely spot, his nose pointed like a dog's, thick, matted hair covering his body and a sinister cross of darker hair across his back like a donkey's, you'd be on your knees promising never to eat pork again if you could be spared your life.

This is why the French have got the wind up about the increasing number of wild boar now roaming parts of France. I doubt whether it should be much of a worry to anyone planning a booze-cruise to Calais but, as reported in *The Times* last week, the wild boar population of central and southern France is now estimated at half a million and growing fast. Rabbits breed fast, but a fecund pig can give a bunny a run for its money in the reproduction stakes; there are already four times as many as there were in 1987.

Wild boar used to be a problem well under control. But a minor, rural annoyance has now turned into a *national* threat and Britain, teetering on the verge of banning hunting with hounds, should take note.

In 1968, the French passed a law removing from farmers and landowners the right to kill any wild animal caught in the act of destruction. Instead, they could claim compensation for any damage done. Well, what would you rather do? Go out on a bleak night with a gun, wait for a sight of Mussolini's little green eyes and hope your shot got him before he got you — or sit by the fire, fill in the forms and wait for the cheque to drop through the door?

Needless to say, the killing stopped, the cheques poured in, and a traditional, humane, cheap and effective way of dealing with a marauding wild animal came to an end. Numbers of wild pigs soared.

This, apparently, has given impetus to the organised "sport" of boar-hunting — as opposed to the traditional rural shootings. Now, commercial boar-hunting is well on its way to achieving corporate hospitality status, as city-weary executives are bussed into the country to take a pot-shot at old piggy. This happens in Britain, at the more aggressively commercial, intensive and somewhat distasteful, pheasant shoots. Ask any *real* sportsman what he thinks of those. But at least pheasants are not much of a nuisance; in France, with the boar-hunters demanding ever better sport for their money, the organisers now feed the wild boar to ensure their whereabouts.

They are no longer game but well-fed mobile targets. A cynic might say OK, a fatter pig is bigger in your sights, but anyone who has kept pigs knows that the better you feed them, the more piglets they have. Boars will multiply, so will compensation claims, and taxpayers will feel the pain from Marseilles to Montmartre.

There is a lesson here. What will happen if fox-hunting with hounds is banned? How will the foxes be controlled? They are a pest, and will be shot. But then what is there to prevent fox-hunting with rifles becoming a sport in its own right, rather than the necessary farming activity it is at present? The French had no problem until the Government mucked about with an ancient rural balance. This is a good example of why governments should not interfere in areas of no concern to them, and of why countrymen should be left alone to sort out their problems for themselves.

As far as the boars are concerned, they will be happy as long as they are fed. But if the fickle world of business finds another game to play at weekends, who will control them then? You can't tell a hungry pig that you're sorry, but the bottom has fallen out of the hospitality business.

In the debate about fox-hunting, I have heard much from both sides about the here-and-now, but little about what will happen a few years hence. The fox will not go away. Its numbers will multiply. They will become hungrier and more aggressive in their hunting. Some bright lawyer will have the idea of getting farmers — or dismayed urban rabbit owners — to sue the Government for compensation because it caused the fox explosion. Wild, hungry animals are not cuddly toys.

Readers' letters are welcome [illegible] letters, full knight. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

# Farewell to the last of the few

**John Young salutes the wartime airfields now being sold off**

HULTON GETTY



Spitfire pilots scrambling for take-off at RAF Duxford during the Battle of Britain. By the end of the war Britain had 444 airfields and 3,000 pilots

The disclosure that the Ministry of Defence is seeking a buyer for Manston airfield, near Ramsgate in Kent, brings a poignant end to a long and stirring chapter in the history of the Royal Air Force. The airfield opened in 1915 and became famous in the Second World War as one of the half-dozen fighter bases at the heart of the Battle of Britain.

Later in the war, as the bombing of Germany intensified, concern grew about crippled aircraft returning from raids which were unable to reach their bases further north and crash-landed on airfields which were too small to accommodate them, sometimes with disastrous results. In 1943 work began on a 9,000ft long "crash" runway, which later allowed Manston to be adapted for civil as well as military use.

The RAF's [illegible] ture coincides with proposals by English Heritage to list a handful of other aerodrome buildings as of historic or architectural interest. Jeremy Lake, who is in charge of the project, is reluctant to disclose details because, he says, negotiations are still at a delicate stage. But those put forward for listing are likely to date from the period before 1939, because they are historically significant and more care was given to their construction.

In the rush to build bases during the Second World War, buildings were knocked up in a few days from whatever materials were at hand, including large quantities of asbestos. In contrast, in the years between the wars, aerodromes were intended to reflect pride in the new aviation age and to appease those who resented their intrusion into the countryside.

English Heritage's interest in airfields has been encouraged by the Airfield Research Group, which boasts about 400 members and publishes a quarterly magazine. The magazine's former editor, Paul Francis, is working with Mr Lake on a shortlist of candidates for preservation.

The first military airfield in Britain was opened in 1910 at Larkhill, on Salisbury Plain, for the Bristol Flying School, which was engaged with the War Office in training pilots for the air battalion of the Royal Engineers, later the Royal Flying Corps.

In June 1914 the RFC was mobilised for war. Initially based at Farnborough, in Surrey, it soon moved to France, leaving Britain's air defences — seaplanes, airships and barrage balloons — to the Royal Naval Air Service stations on the east coast. The high casualty rate among pilots created an urgent need for replacements, and by 1918, when the RFC and the RNAS were merged to form the RAF, some 60 more aerodromes had been built in Britain for training. The best known survivor from this period is Duxford, in Cambridgeshire, now occupied by the *Imperial War Museum*.

In 1920 the wartime ban on civil aviation was lifted, and flying enjoyed a boom among the rich. Little attention was paid to military flying until the formidable Lord Trenchard, "the father of the RAF", took a hand.

Trenchard was convinced that the outcome of future wars would depend upon air power. He ordered the building of three bomber bases at Bicester, Abingdon and Upper Heyford in Oxfordshire, and the reopening of First World War airfields, including Biggin Hill, in Kent.

Between 1934 and 1939 the strength of the RAF rose from 34,000 to 118,000, and at the outbreak of the war it had nearly 2,000 bombers and 1,000 fighters. But there was public hostility to rearmament, and airfields had to be designed to meet local sensibilities. Eminent architects like Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and Sir Edwin Lutyens were called in as advisers and the buildings at Hullavington, Wiltshire, were faced in Cotswold stone.



Fighter pilots waiting for battle in the mess at Gravesend in 1940

In the tumult of the Blitz there was no time for niceties. If Biggin Hill and Manston acquired fame and glory during the Battle of Britain, hundreds of other bases played a vital role. By the end of the war there were 444 operational airfields protecting cities, particularly London, and bomber bases mainly in East Anglia and Lincolnshire.

Most were closed after the war but some were "mothballed" in case of further hostilities. It was not until the Sixties that the former owners could reclaim their property, but farmers were mollified by the profits to be made from contractors eager to acquire the hardcore for motorways.

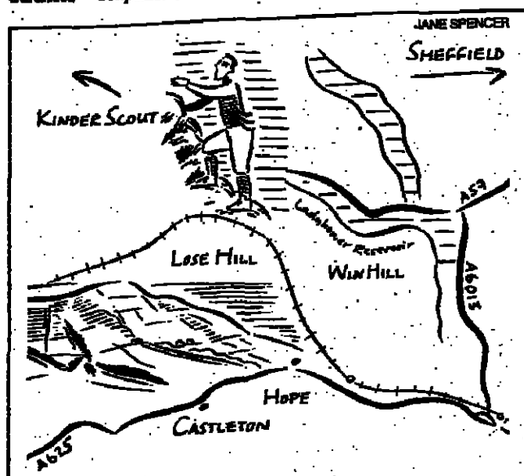
More closures followed the publication of the cost-cutting defence review, *Options for Change*, in 1990, and now only about 20 flying stations are fully operational. Upper Heyford is at present used for storing cars, whereas Scampton, in Lincolnshire, home of the "Dambusters" squadron, was closed and then reopened as a base for the Red Arrows.

Most have living quarters, and it has been suggested that these could be modernised to meet an estimated demand for four million new homes in the next two decades. Another suggestion is to use some of the sites for building prisons.

But the MoD is reluctant to dispose of its housing, claiming that it may be needed in future. Even now, former RAF bases are being used to accommodate Army personnel returning to Britain after the closure of bases in Germany and Hong Kong. As for new uses for hangars, the ministry welcomes suggestions.

Air and Space Museum, p27

JANE SPENCER




ON THE SPOT: PEAK DISTRICT

*Rural recommendations*

**The place:** Lose Hill, Hope.
**The view:** a panorama of the neighbouring peaks, including *Mam Tor and Win Hill. The Kinder Scout* range, which is 2,088ft high, lies to the northwest.
**Aficionados:** serious walkers.
**Historical interest:** the Peak District is the second most popular national park in the world, with only Mount Fuji in Japan attracting more visitors. Its series of crags make it suitable for all abilities of climbers and walkers. Lose Hill was named after the losers in a medieval battle — the winners, not surprisingly, had a hill named Win Hill.
**Time to visit:** a clear day in winter or spring.
**OS ref:** 154/853 on sheet 110.
**How to get there:** from Hope car park, take the Edale Road past the Cheshire Cheese pub and follow the lane on the left.
**Also nearby:** the Pennine Way, Edale Activity Centre for caving, abseiling and potholing. Sheffield is ten miles east.

DEBORAH KING

# Peril of the early brood

FEATHER REPORT

THE BLACKBIRD that has been reported nesting in a Christmas tree outside Norwich Town Hall may be lucky and bring up its brood. But there are many hazards in store. It takes a lot out of a blackbird just to lay her eggs, and on these short days she has to hunt hard for food to make up her strength. Yet at the same time she has to sit on the eggs most of the day for a fortnight or so.

As long as the weather stays mild she may pull the trick off, because worms are easy to find in the soft soil, and the eggs can be left a little longer without chilling.

After the eggs hatch, her mate will probably help her to feed the young for the further fortnight they will need to stay in the nest. But the nestlings demand a great deal of food, and it will be a struggle, even on warm days, for the parents to collect enough for them before dark.

If the ground is frozen their chances of success will fade. Even if the young birds fledge, they will hide under bushes and beg for food for a week or two more. So for their sakes, let us hope it stays mild for at least another month.

It is usually a combination of increasing temperatures and lengthening daylight that brings birds into breeding condition, so this was a very odd pair. An intriguing possibility is that they were not early nesters but late nesters, whose sexual organs had not shrunk since last summer, as those of most birds have.

The time when birds breed is usually closely related to food supply for themselves and their young. Blackbirds and song thrushes normally start fairly early, in March or at the beginning of April, because worms are at their most easily obtainable then — after the frosts and before the soil gets drier and harder. Blue and great tits start about a month later, so they can feed their young on the caterpillars on the oak trees in May. Spotted flycatchers *do not* even arrive in Britain till May, and eat the winged insects of high summer.

Meanwhile, crossbills are already beginning to nest in the pine trees of East Anglia and Scotland, because they extract the seeds from the opening pine cones — and most pine cones will soon be ripe. In fact, crossbills can be found nesting in midwinter, if pine or fir seeds are available. The male feeds the female on the nest, and they shake their wings defiantly at the snow.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — listen for "teacher, teacher" song of great tits. Twitchers — lesser yellowlegs, Martin Mere, Lancashire; adult laughing gull, Maer Lake, Bude; American wigeon, Cley, Norfolk. Details from Birdline 0891 700222. Calls cost 50p a minute.*

PETER BROWN



Female blackbird on a nest

THE TIMES
PRESENTS
*Valentine's Day*
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
*Week end*
Burberrys OF LONDON

**Tell someone you love them in 12 words or more...**

Once again, The Times offers *the* most romantic environment for your Valentine's Day messages. Through our exclusive arrangement with Burberrys we will send the one you love a bottle of *Week end* fragrance for men/women, together with a card which reads: "Look for your message in The Times on Valentine's Day."

In addition the most original Valentine message published will win a romantic 7-day holiday for two to Florida (to be taken before the 30th June 1998). There will also be two runner-up prizes of a case of champagne.*

| Write your message below (One word per box – minimum 3 lines) | | | | Price | Price with gift |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | - | - |
| | | | | - | - |
| | | | | £22 | £29 |
| | | | | £26 | £35 |
| | | | | £30 | £39 |
| | | | | £34 | £43 |

All prices inc. of VAT

**Your Details**

Name
Address (home/office)
Postcode
Telephone:

**Your Valentine's Details**

Name
Address (home/office)
Postcode
Tick box if you would like to send a gift M☐ F☐

I enclose a cheque/PO for £ _____ made payable to Times Newspapers Ltd.
Or debit my credit card by £ _____ Card expiry date: _____
Card No:
Signature

Please send this coupon with remittance for Valentines Messages to: The Times PO Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9BE. Fax 0171 782 7760. Credit Card Bookings 0171 481 4000. All messages with gifts must be received no later than Monday 9th February 1998. We reserve the right to omit an advertisement. *Standard terms and conditions apply

Those grand old sloggers – the shires, Clydesdales, Percherons – are making a comeback in a world dominated by tractors

# A gee-up for working horses

SCOTT WICKING



Chris Wadsworth, a member of the British Loggers and Forestry Contracting Association, extracting wood in awkward terrain with his 11-year-old Clydesdale, Shane

The rough terrain at Burnbarrow Wood in south Cumbria generally deters commercial exploitation. In the deepest part of the forest, the use of heavy machinery makes wood extraction slow and difficult. But the area is ideal for a working horse.

In a scene reminiscent of the pre-industrial age, Brian Crawley and his wife Louise are thinning the thicket and overseeing a working horse dragging logs down the hill to a burner, where the wood is turned into charcoal.

The business, which is kind to the forest and its wildlife, employs only the lowest of technologies but is highly successful on a small scale. Enthusiasts for horse-logging say it represents the way forward for the countryside, and that the working horse is proudly trotting back into fashion.

Young's brewery in south-west London has just announced that it is reintroducing the 18 dray horses which it retired a year ago. The brewery reckons that its horses are cheaper and quicker than lorries for delivering beer to nearby pubs.

Now, shires, Clydesdales, Dales, Percherons, Ardennes and Coloured Cobs are riding into view across the country.

In recent years, they have become a common sight in country parks from Hyde Park in London to the arboretum at Tetbury, in Gloucestershire, as well as the dense woodland managed by the Forestry Commission. They are cheap to run, more attractive and more romantic than four-wheel-drive vehicles.

It is a remarkable story. Up to the 1960s horses were used as one of the main methods to extract timber but their numbers, and those employed to work with them, fell into decline as tractors took over.

The specialist equipment and knowledge to operate horses was rapidly becoming a folk memory. Along with it went a way of life, a respect for the countryside and a language redolent of an era lived closer to the soil.

The traditional method of extracting timber by horse is to use a modified harness and chain with a spreader bar, but there is a poetry in all its variations. Words and practices surrounding skidding grapples and choke chains, bridles with blinkers, arches and trailers, tongs and pulp hooks were almost lost to view. Things became so bad that today's exponents have had to look to Scandinavia for help in reviving the craft.

Horses are favoured for thinning and extracting the timber because they can penetrate where no machinery can go: up steep slopes and through dense thickets.

Last autumn, the 1997 British Horse Logging Championships, held at Malvern, Worcestershire, attracted about 42,000 people. They saw Marcus Van-Stone become the British champion, with his horse Campbell.

The British Horse Loggers, a specialist group within the Forestry Contracting Association, even runs courses for handlers to gain a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) in timber extraction with horses and the handling of draught horses.

Working horses are also making a comeback on urban streets at the head of wedding and funeral processions. In Liverpool, two Cleveland bays, Sebastian and Thomas, which once pulled the Lord Mayor's carriage around the city, have been brought out of retirement by popular demand.

Bradford Industrial Museum, which stages "The Horses That Work" exhibition, has contracts to replenish the town's municipal hanging baskets from a horse-drawn water bowser, and to empty litter bins in the town centre.

Steve Kerry, who cares for the grey shires and Clydesdales at Bradford, says: "The public love to see them. It is proper work for our horses."

Sara Roberts, a field officer with the Forestry Contracting Association, says it has more than 30 horse-logging contractors working throughout the country. "Working horses virtually died out in the 1960s," she says. "They weren't the sort of things you could switch off at night and start up next morning. The skills of the horseman were being lost but the good thing is that they never really disappeared.

"Many people comment on how quiet the operation is, how efficient, and how much more in keeping with their surroundings it all is."

Edward Mills, the project manager for Cumbria Broadleaves, an advisory service for woodland owners, is heartened by the steady return of the working pony.

The Crawleys, of Barrow-in-Furness, have adopted a lifestyle along with their working pony. However, those in search of the good life should beware: "It can mean a slightly lower standard of living," he says. "Some have a romantic view of the working horse but it is a hard life among the mud, flies and rain."

Rob Rawstorne, 28, who runs Horse Traction, a horse-logging company based at the Yorkshire Dales Trekking Centre in Malham, is one of the new breed of horse loggers and travels with his working horses to either end of the M1.

"Horses are specialist tools and very valuable as such," he says. "They can be used on a wide variety of sites. But the public has been swifter to appreciate their merits than estate managers, who pooh-pooh their contribution.

"We are not just doing it to be traditional; we believe the horse is the best tool in difficult terrain, especially on environmentally sensitive sites."

RUSSELL JENKINS

**HORSE TALK**

- Man has enjoyed a working relationship with the horse since it was domesticated by Indo-European tribes on the steppes north of the Black and Caspian seas about 3000 BC.
- Sculptures, drawings and tapestries dating back three millennia have shown humans on horseback. Horse racing, as a sport, dates from the 7th century BC.
- The cavalry was pre-eminent in the Middle Ages, when the huge weight of the armour led to the breeding of heavier horses.
- "The Horses That Work" exhibition at Bradford tells the story of the horse. The grey shires and bay Clydesdales on show are the kind of working horses that powered transport at the turn of the century.

THE TIMES
PRESENTS
Valentine's Day
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
Weekend
Burberrys
OF LONDON

Tell someone you love them in 12 words or more...

Once again, The Times offers *the* most romantic environment for your Valentine's Day messages. Through our exclusive arrangement with **Burberrys** we will send the one you love a bottle of *Weekend* fragrance for men/women, together with a card which reads: "Look for your message in The Times on Valentine's Day." In addition the most original Valentine message published will win a romantic 7-day holiday for two to Florida (to be taken before the 30th June 1998). There will also be two runner-up prizes of a case of champagne.*

| Write your message below (One word per box - minimum 3 lines) | | | | Price | Price with gift |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | - | - |
| | | | | - | - |
| | | | | £22 | £29 |
| | | | | £26 | £35 |
| | | | | £30 | £39 |
| | | | | £34 | £43 |

All prices inc. of VAT

**Your Details**

Name
Address (home/office)
Postcode
Telephone:

**Your Valentine's Details**

Name
Address (home/office)
Postcode
Tick box if you would like to send a gift M☐ F☐

I enclose a cheque/PO for £ _____ made payable to: Times Newspapers Limited.
Or debit my credit card by £ _____ Card expiry date: _____
Card No: ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐
Signature

Please send this coupon with remittance to: **Valentines Messages The Times PO Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London, E1 9BL. Fax: 0171 782 7799. E-mail: Beverly.Birch@newsint.co.uk CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS: 0171 481 4000** All messages with gifts must be received no later than Monday 9th February 1998. We reserve the right to omit an advertisement. *Standard terms and conditions apply

TEL: 0171 680 6122 **ANIMALS & ACCESSORIES** FAX: 0171 782 7799

BURNS
real food for dogs!

**DIGESTIVE DISORDERS**

Loose bowel motions, vomiting, abdominal discomfort, straining, passing blood or mucus are all signs of upset digestion. Whether the diagnosis is colitis, enteritis, gastroenteritis, allergy, infection etc... the problem can usually be attributed to one cause -

**IMPROPER DIET.**

Digestive upset is often blamed on a diet being "too rich". This is a myth which some manufacturers are happy to perpetuate because it implies that their food is of a high standard. The reality is generally the reverse of this. Low quality foods containing indigestible ingredients are more likely to cause problems than foods which contain easily-digestible materials.

***Burns Real Food For Dogs and Burns Real Food For Cats - developed by John Burns BVMS MRCVS can be economical solutions to the management of digestive problems.***

*Burns Pet Nutrition is dedicated to the promotion of good health in our pets. For further information, and free copies of our publications on : Natural Health Care, Eczema, Obesity, Excess Moulting and digestive Disorders and a sample CALL FREE on 0800-146788 or contact:*

***BURNS PET NUTRITION, 4 AVALON CRT, KIDWELLY, Carmarthenshire, SA17 5EJ. Tel: 01554 890492. In Eire call Limerick (061) 330534***



To advertise in this section contact Chris Marshall on 0171 680 6125 or Fax 0171 782 7799.
Other Headings available in this section are:
Charities; Pet Rescue; Horses; Grooming Services; Memorials; Kennels & Catteries; Lost Pets; Pet Friendly Accommodation; Shows.
Any other title required unique to our animal world can be accommodated



**FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF SUPPLE JOINTS**

Runaround

**THE COMPLETE MOBILITY SUPPLEMENT**

RUNAROUND is a rich source of the macronutrients produced by the body essential for the long term strength and stability of your dog's bones and joints. It is a natural alternative to steroids.

Dogs Today office dog Sally uses RUNAROUND. Her owner Beverley Cuddy says: "I've tried lots of remedies for Sal's stiff legs. Sal can't have most of the more conventional treatments because of her weak digestive system. Runaround has made a definite improvement to her quality of life."

RUNAROUND contains shark cartilage and green lipped mussel extract, together with Ester C and vitamin E.

Used daily RUNAROUND

- ✓ Helps to maintain the integrity of bones and joints
- ✓ Provides essential chondroitin sulphate for the maintenance of healthy connective tissues
- ✓ Provides mucopolysaccharides and glycosaminoglycans to assist in the maintenance of lubricancy – ie a moist, gliding surface
- ✓ Contains potentiated Ester C vital for collagen formation
- ✓ Contains Vitamin E for tendons and muscle cell stability

For a medium sized dog, add 6g per day to feed for five days, then 3g per day

RUNAROUND is available at dog shows, from veterinary surgeons or direct by mail order, price £14.95 for 100g tub. Larger sizes available. New 300g tub for regular customers now available.

ORDER HOTLINE 01362 694957

STOCK NUTRITION, STATION ROAD, YAXHAM, NORFOLK NR19 1RD
TEL 01362 694957 FAX 01362 699067

**SPECIAL OFFERS ON TRANSIT CAGES**

CUT OUT THIS VOUCHER FOR AN ADDITIONAL £3 SAVING ON PRICES OF SURESAFE CRATES – SEE OUR ADVERT ON PAGE 92

Offer limited to one voucher per cage ordered. Valid until 15 February 1998

**DOES YOUR DOG (OR MAN) WIPE HIS FEET?**
*Use the MAGMAT and he doesn't need to.*
* GUARANTEED FOR YEARS
* HEAVY DUTY RUBBER BACKING
* COTTON ABSORBS MUD, WATER, OIL ON CONTACT
* REDUCES DUST LEVEL IN THE HOME BY UP TO
* NON-SLIP, VIRTUALLY INDESTRUCTIBLE
* Made for us under a BSI APPROVED ISO 9000 Quality System *
* COMPLETELY MACHINE WASHABLE *
Many Uses in the HOME, GARAGE, SHED, KENNELS, CONSERVATORY, CAR, BOAT, CARAVAN OR CAMPING
BRITISH MADE IN SIZES AND COLOURS
**Prices from £11.99**
Telephone or send SAE for colour samples and further information
KINDRED SPIRITS (17) 6 New Road, Great Wakering, Essex SS3 0AH
TELEPHONE/FAX 01702 217634

**PET INSURANCE**
*Special Readers Offer*
*First 28 Days Cover FREE*
PRIME COVER WITH VETS FEES COSTS PER MONTH
DOG £8.95 CAT £4.95
TEL:07000 0800 800
Mon to Fri 8am -9pm Sat & Sun 9am - 6pm

British Made
**SURESAFE DOG CARRIERS**
The safer choice

| Model | Dimensions H.WXD (inches approx) | SINGLE DOOR | DOUBLE DOOR |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 20x24x16 | 30.00 | na |
| 2 | 24x19x20 | 35.00 | na |
| 3 | 30x22x24 | 50.00 | 65.00 |
| 4 | 36x25x27 | 60.00 | 70.00 |
| 5 | 42x25x27 | 70.00 | 80.00 |

All cages are fully collapsible and supplied with internal tray. Please add £4.00 p&p for anywhere in the UK and Eire.

Cheques payable to Suresafe International Ltd
HAVE YOU DISCOVERED our low cost "DOGSAFE" bolt-together kennel run?
SAMPLE price 2m panel £59.60 only + carriage
**STOCK NUTRITION**
STATION ROAD, YAXHAM, NORFOLK, NR19 1RD
TEL: 01362 694957 FAX: 01362 699067
TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME

**GENERAL**

WILD BIRD FOOD and accessories. Send for our mail order catalogue. Tel: 01473 730246 - Fax: 01473 730875. WWW.BCN.CO.UK/COPDOCK

WORLDWIDE Pet Travel Agency Heathrow. Animals by air. Tel: 01753 686571/ Fax: 681665. E-mail: Airpets@compuserve.com. OR Web:http// WWW.airpets.com.

**DOGS**

IRISH SETTER puppies, show champion sire, KC reg, tattooed and inoculated, show or pet, contact Annette 0115 978 7406

PUG puppy, male, 34 months, Fawn with Black mask, all shots, KC reg, to an approved loving home only, parents can be seen, Tel: 01248 470288

**CATS**

LOOKING FOR that special kitten? Call Cat-a-Log for pedigree cats. 01777 249542

**ACCESSORIES**

NEW DISPOSABLE PUPPY MATS
NOW, THERE'S A FRESH NEW WAY TO TOILET TRAIN YOUR PUPPY. Super absorbent, paper mats help train your puppy and protect your floor
New, disposable PUPPY MATS are a revolutionary way to toilet train your puppy. Made from a thin, soft yet strong, highly absorbent paper mesh mat soaks up approximately 1/4 litre/4 fl. oz. leaving no puddles and no wetness. In addition, a non-slip waterproof backing protects your floor.
Measuring 400mm x 565mm. PUPPY MATS are available in packs of 50 or 100.
50 mats £11.50 + £2.50 p&p
100 mats £21 + £3.75 p&p
SEND TODAY FOR YOUR NEW PUPPY MATS
and say goodbye to messy toilet training
Call now on 01405 839822
Fax 01405 839822

**Unique liquid herbs for horses**
*[Products dedicated to improving the welfare of your horses and ponies, naturally]*
**NoBute, Hormonise & ImmuBoost**
Naturally ! Naturally !
[the NATURAL alternatives]
For further information on these remarkable products, fill in the coupon below and send to :
Equine Health & Herbal, 38-40 Broton Drive, HALSTEAD, Essex, CO9 1HB
Name.....
Address.....
Telephone No.....

Published by Times Newspapers Limited, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XW. Printed by Times Printers (Holloway) Ltd, Holloway Road, London N7 9NL. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office. Subscription rates: UK £1,040 per annum. Overseas £1,040 per annum. Enquiries: UK 0345 581000, Overseas +44 1481 706000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Supplement to The Times. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل



# Animal ER comes to town

A day in the life of an emergency vet is far from starry, says **Carol Price**

BLUE CROSS



It is early morning at the Blue Cross charity's animal hospital in Victoria, London, and a dazed hamster, a sickly cat and a sad mongrel named Lucky are heading a lengthening queue in reception. A notice on the wall warns that "Things Can Always Get Worse", and frequently they do as animals are regularly hustled in fighting for their lives.

This is not only a working animal hospital, but scene of the new ITV series *Animal SOS*, which shows the daily dramas and crises lived out in this place, not just by staff and patients but by pet owners. Many come here as a last resort, seeking free care they could otherwise not afford.

One of the series' star vets is Jessica Gower, whose white coat seems a constant blur as she rushes down dingy corridors to undertake emergency surgery or patiently explain middle-ear disease to the owners of an elderly boxer.

As well as being what the series producer, Nick Kenton, calls "a natural on film", Miss Gower is a dedicated vet for whom free time is a chance to go on a veterinary course or spend more time with animals.

She wanted to be a vet from the age of 12 and, at 29, has been with the Blue Cross for five years, after qualifying at Cambridge University veterinary school.

Most of the vets at the hospital — usually up to ten — are aged about 30, and need mental as well as physical resilience. "Unlike in private practice, where there is far more routine and preventative work, our cases tend to be major, traumatic and immediate: road accident victims, cats falling from balconies," Miss Gower says. "When we see animals, they tend to be in big trouble, with fractured jaws and limbs, facial injuries and chest traumas. Yet, amazingly, we lose few such cases, unless they arrive with a catastrophic spinal injury or major internal haemorrhage. Nearly everything else gets mended."

Many of the animals Miss Gower sees live in high-rise flats or on the streets. "Some people argue that a high-rise flat is not ideal for a cat," she says, "but it's not ideal for a person either. One thing this job makes you aware of is how difficult some people's lives are, how little about their existence is ever nice or easy, and how sometimes the only one good thing they have in their lives is their pet."



Above: vet Jessica Gower tends to the leg of a dog involved in a road accident



Left: an abandoned kitten is hand-fed milk from a syringe

Dogs belonging to homeless people, she says, are about the friendliest and most obedient of animals. "Nobody ever tells them each morning, 'Get in your basket and I'll see you again at half past five'. They have their pack leader with them 24 hours a day, which is what a dog needs."

From 9am onwards, Miss Gower's day seems to be a conveyor belt of broken limbs, vomiting cats, failing organs and festering abscesses. Not all the animals will get better and, for some, euthanasia may seem the best option.

"Many owners we see have become dependent on their pets," Miss Gower says, "and find it hard to accept that an animal's life comes to an end. I feel it is a privilege to put a very old or very sick animal out of its suffering kindly, but I always try extra hard to save pets belonging to elderly people. If I don't, my fear is that I could have taken away their last reason for getting up in the morning."

Screen stardom is not a high priority in Miss Gower's mind. In the flat she shares with Mouse, a cat rescued from a dustbin, she does not even own a television set. She is more concerned that television exposure will help the Blue Cross, now 100 years in business, to raise the £2.7 million it needs to build a new hospital in Victoria, replacing the antiquated premises.

Many days, you sense, she hovers on the point of exhaustion. "But come the evening," she says, "when I look at all these rows and rows of quiet, resting animals in their kennels, there's a tremendous satisfaction. Only that morning they could have come in dying, with rubber balls stuck in their intestines or other major traumas, and now they all mended and comfortable and will soon be going home."

She says she knows "that this is the most special place I'll ever work at and, if the time ever comes to leave it, I'll probably weep myself silly".

● *Animal SOS is on Carlton (London area only), Mon, 1.50pm.*

● *Blue Cross Animal Hospital, 1-5 Hugh Street, London SW1V 1QQ (0171-834 1128).*

## FACT FILE

■ Blue Cross is a donation-dependent animal welfare charity which treats more than 55,000 animals a year free for low-income owners, at hospitals in London and Grimsby, and clinics in London and Dublin.

■ Last year its 11 national adoption centres found new homes for 8,400 rescued animals. In 1997, too, its 15 vets and 50 veterinary nurses carried out 6,582 operations and 7,065 X-rays.

■ For details of your nearest Blue Cross adoption centre, or how else to help, write to its headquarters at: Shilton Road, Burford, Oxfordshire OX18 4PF (01993 822483).

## ADOPT ME



LESTER (above) is a 13-year-old ginger and white male cat who needs a home after the death of his owner. He is gentle and affectionate, in good health and enjoys having his stomach rubbed. Ideally, he needs a quiet home with an attentive and caring owner. If you are interested in adopting Lester, contact the Newbury branch of the Cats Protection League, 01635 200111.

## A VET WRITES

**Q Is it possible for very young puppies to be infected with gastro-enteritis by a child handling them?**

A Not in the sense that germs could pass from the child to the pup. Continuous handling for hours on end could cause sufficient stress to reduce a puppy's resistance to those intestinal bacteria that live in harmony with him in normal circumstances. But changes of environment, sudden variations of diet and extremes of temperature are the usual stress factors that upset pups, which is why it is always wise to buy a puppy from the home where he was born. He can cope with this one change.

**Q For the past 12 months Bert, our 11-year-old golden labrador, has had a growth beneath his tail which bleeds. The vet diagnosed it as an anal adenoma, assured us it was not malignant and treated it with hormone injections. The bleeding stopped and the lump got smaller but it has flared up again and the hormones don't seem to be working as well as they did. Now the vet suggests castrating Bert. How would this help? Wouldn't it be better to remove the tumour?**

A These tumours are overgrowths of sebaceous glands in the skin of the dog's rear end, which develop when his hormonal balance is upset. The injections were female sex hormones, which corrected this imbalance. Once the effect wore off, the tumour returned. Surgical removal of the adenoma would be effective for that particular tumour but it does nothing to alter the hormone pattern, so there is every probability of another tumour developing. Castration is a permanent solution.

**Q Last week, you suggested growing catmint to encourage a cat to stay at home. I don't keep cats, but I am a keen gardener. It will soon be time to prepare seed beds and the neighbourhood cats believe I'm working to provide them with a public lavatory. I want to keep them away. Any suggestions?**

A A horticultural answer is to grow Rue — an evergreen shrub with a smell which cats hate. Ultrasonic cat deterrents appear to be effective for a time, but determined cats learn to accept the blast of sound. Fresh orange peel scattered around the seed beds creates a smell abhorrent to cats and, if you can obtain it, lion or tiger dung is an excellent repellent (big cats frighten little cats). Small-mesh wire netting laid on top of the soil stops the cats from digging holes and damp soil puts them off.

JAMES ALLCOCK

● *Write to The Times Vet, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.*

## Agility classes are great fun for dogs and an exacting test of their owners' skill and fitness, says **Carolyn Henderson**



Thomas the Jack Russell clears a barrier during the sport's top competition, which includes jumps, tunnels and see-saws

GILL ALLEN



Garry the lurcher makes his Olympia debut with owner Larry Goldsworthy keeping pace and offering encouragement

# Must get fit in the new year (and my owner too)

If your dog is fast on his feet, and you can keep up with him, then dog agility could be for you. With more than 300 clubs and 200 shows a year throughout Britain, the sport breaks the barriers of age, size and background — for handlers as well as dogs.

"The most important thing about it is that it's fun," says Colin Whitear, one of the finalists in the sport's top competition, the Pedigree Chum Agility Stakes final which was held recently at London's Olympia. "If you've got an active dog and you can run with him, you can do it."

Competitors negotiate up to 16 obstacles, ranging from jumps to tunnels, see-saws and closely spaced poles through which the dog has to weave. The challenge is to make a fast round without penalties, which demands concentration and athleticism from dog and owner.

"It's all about body language, voice control and eye contact," says finalist Larry Goldsworthy. "It's a bit like tennis players keeping their eye on the ball. In this case, the ball is the dog."

Agility was officially recognised as a sport 20 years ago. Competitions are divided into three categories, with obstacles adjusted to the height of the dogs: the largest dogs, which measure more than 1ft 5in (42cm) at the withers, are asked to jump a maximum of 2ft 6in.

Border collies and working sheepdogs excel at the sport, but by no means have it all their own way. Tiny balls of fluff are often as versatile as Great Danes, as are creatures of unknown breeding. "There are only a few breeds that can't do it, such as bull mastiffs," explains Mr Whitear. "The only reason is that their bodyweight is so great they can't make the jumps."

Some handlers like to be different. Mr Whitear started with a boxer and now has a cheerful Jack Russell called Thomas the Tank, while Garry the lurcher (official name Trevingey Play It Cool) made his Olympia debut with Mr Goldsworthy.



Colin Whitear with Thomas (left) and Larry Goldsworthy with Garry

Both agree that the best way to make a start in agility is to join a good local club where you can get experienced help. Your dog will need to be in good shape: Mr Goldsworthy, from Redruth, Cornwall, trains would-be contestants and emphasises that an overweight dog is an unhealthy dog in any circumstances.

"One lady came to me with a chocolate Labrador, and the first thing she had to get to grips with was some dietary training," he says. "She got the weight off him, and now he's a cracking dog."

Dogs cannot compete until they are 18 months old, but with most breeds training starts much earlier, through play. "Teach him to play with a ball," suggests Mr Whitear. "At the end of the day, he's got to love the work. He's got to know that when he does something right, he gets to play."

Garry is also trained through incentive, but in a different way. "His incentive is to run and his instinct is to catch rabbits," says Mr Goldsworthy. "When he finishes the course, he gets hold of me — not in an aggressive way, but because he needs the 'kill' at the end of the chase."

Each obstacle is introduced in stages. "You start off with the jumps very low, with the dog on one side and you on the other," says Mr Whitear. "When he comes to you, he gets lots of praise. It's always praise for doing things right, not telling him off for doing things wrong."

Most dogs enjoy going through tunnels, though there are exceptions. "The hardest one I've taught was a German Shepherd who just wouldn't put his head in," recalls Mr Goldsworthy. "I got the owner to crawl through until the dog could see him offering him a biscuit."

See-saws are introduced with care, controlling the movement until the dog is confident. Weaving poles are initially spaced wide apart and the dog encouraged to go through the line chasing a toy held by the owner.

Junior contestants between eight and 18 can join the Kennel Club Junior Organisation and attend the annual week-long National Dog Camp. This covers all aspects of having fun with your dog, including show handling, obedience and agility.

Helena Hutchings, 14-year-old champion junior show handler of the year, has just started agility with her giant schnauzer, Hanna. Her father, Eric, has built obstacles in the garden of their Middlesex home, and every week she goes to a club in Chobham, Surrey.

Clubs and shows use professional courses, but these do not come cheap. Alan Pollock of Premier Jumps says that basic courses cost from about £2,000: they can also be hired.

Watch the experts at work and the overwhelming impression is of how much the dogs enjoy their work. "You've got to have a rapport between dog and handler," says Mr Whitear. "If your dog loves you, you should be able to get to a reasonably good standard."

● *Lorna Boulter at the Kennel Club (0171-518 1013) can provide information on your nearest club. The Kennel Club Junior Organisation is at the Kennel Club, 1-5 Clarges Street, London W1Y 8AB (0171-493 6651). Agility will be one of the activities in the special events ring at this year's Crufts, at the NEC, Birmingham, from March 5 to 8.*

## TO RESPOND TO AN ADVERTISER...

...BY VOICE MAIL When responding to an advertiser call 0897 505 563 (*calls cost £1.00 per minute*) and then follow the simple voice instructions.

All advertisements in Rendezvous have the symbol, indicating that the advertiser has the facility for you to leave him/her a voice message.

BY POST
All postal replies should be addressed to Box No.... c/o The Times, P.O. Box 3553, Virginia Street, London E1 9GA.

THE TIMES

## SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

**ACROSS THE ROOM** (Herts, Essex, Suffolk). Sparkling Parties, Candlelit dinners. 01277 362742 *for brochure*

**ABROAD!** Sonia, Romantic Business & Adventure with The Supper Club N London. Russell Bedford, Wapa. 01727 847302

**AMERICANS** seek romance & marriage with British ladies & gentlemen - all ages! English Rose & English Connection. Tel: 01843 863322 or Fax: 01843 863346 (24 hrs)!

**BATH** Exeter S Wales "Executive Club at Bristol". quality introductions & social events. Caroline 0117 973 5827

**BEAUTIFUL** Thai Ladies. Colour brochure. Siam Introductions. Tel: 01689 860 880 (anytime)

**BRISTOL/Bath** areas. For attractive and successful local introductions call *Chris now at* Elite: 7 days. 0117 973 6663

**BROMLEY**, Bexley, S.E. London, Dartford, Gravesend. Meet a mate in 'Bl Call Elite for details of our personal local service. 0181 658 7576

**CIRCLES.** So exclusive. It's where you'd expect to meet that someone special. Telephone 0161 426 9168

**ESSEX** and SuSolk 'Elite'. 100's of quality ladies and gentlemen genuinely seeking a long term partner - it could be you! Call Tom 0500 497725 open 7 days

**CONNEXIONS** is the friendship club that puts single Christians in touch with each other. Ring us on 0161 906 4467.

**FINDING** that special someone has never been such fun. Parties & Dinner parties. Go-Karting & Polo. The Theatre, Opera and Concerts. Circles. The Social Events Company for Single People. Telephone 0181 426 9168

**HI-SOCIETY!** Super London Introductions, a elegant Profs 30/60 affordable select venues No membership fees - we donate to charity Next party: Sat 31st Jan Call Anthony 0171 586 5789

**HI-TOWN** Tonight Sat 31st Jan: Super Party, W1. Profs 30-50. Hi-Society: 0171 586 5789

**NEWCASTLE/Durham/Teesside** Find someone special with Elite: Julia/Ian 01670 505123

**NO** Time To Wait! Find your Valentine's date. 4 lucky ladies introduced £79.95. Matchmakers International 2, Norfolk Crescent, London W2 2DN. Tel/fax. 0171 706 3897

**OXFORDSHIRE & Wiltshire Elite** Introductions, ask for Helen 01869 337373 open 7 days

**PERSONAL** Introductions and an unmatched calendar of superb events for selective discerning people. Circles. Tel: 0181 426 9168

**PLUMP PARTNERS** (National Dating Agency. If you are plump or prefer a plump partner ring 01352 715909.

**RICHMOND DINING CLUB.** The civilised way to meet single professional people. Tel: 01635 44157

**SHREWSBURY** Shropshire Mid Wales You'll be surprised how local we are Elite 0500 003444

**SINGLES PARTIES** Covent Garden. Every Thursday. Ages 30-50. From £20.00. 0171-836 3070.

**SOUTHAMPTON** area: Elite Introductions, ask for Derek 01489 583700 open 7 days

**THE DINNER CLUB** (Est.'86) Join UK's largest up-market singles dining club and enjoy dining, dancing, weekends away, holidays abroad (01245) 548816

**THIS PICTURE** Dating idea is brilliant' Capital Radio, call for details 0171 839 8884 (day) 0181 297 1424 (anytime) ABIA

**WESTCOUNTRY** New Year! New Love! New Life! Discover Devon Cornwall Call Elite for a special person 0800 214920

**YORKSHIRE** Humberside probably The No 1 Personal Introduction & Social Events Service in your area. Elite Introductions Freecall 0500 525240

**WORCESTERSHIRE** Gloucester Hereford looking for that special partner Ring Elite Introd Freecall 0500 131713

## LADIES

**ADVENTUROUS,** goodlooking, athletic/ slim blonde seeks guy, rugby type/ fit physique, 30-40. Letter, photo. Surrey. Box 9256

**ALONE** on holiday? Join a schooner party in Turkey for a lazy sun-drenched *holiday, glorious* food, watersports and sunny saiboats. A floating houseparty for discerning travellers. Day-Dreams 0171 631 4436

**ARTS,** piano, walks, arts, sensual, 41, vege. Male. I've got the horse if you've got the carriage. Letter/ photo/ tranquility. Please Reply to Box No 9343

**ATTRACTIVE** full figured woman, 34, seeks friendship/ relationship with tall/ well built professional man, 35-45, who enjoys wining & dining & wintry walks. London, Surrey area. Please Reply to Box No 9346

**ATTRACTIVE,** professional lady who is romantic, intelligent & fun WLTM a genuine, interesting man with a GSOH, 35-45, preferably living in the south of England. Box No 9389

**B'HAM 'Elite'** - Gentleman look no further! If you live in the West Mids/Warks call now! The service that really is professional confidential and local 0121 323 3314

**BOURNEMOUTH** Elite. 100s of truly (30m Radius!) local lovely ladies waiting, all ages, more info! 01202 891500

**BRIGHTON** Elite. For introductions in Sussex call Nigel on 01273 270975 Anytime

**BROMLEY,** Bexley, S.E. London, Gravesend. Gentlemen over 55! Call Elite for details of our special rates. 0181 658 7576

**CHARMING,** lively, caring, intelligent lady, solvent & attractive, NW London based, varied interests include theatre, acting, the arts generally. WLTM interested, interesting man (55-70). Photo, phone no. appreciated. Write Box 9414

**DELICIOUS** man wanted to bring me flowers just because! You're 40 something, good looking, romantic, well dressed, well off and laugh a lot. You like wining and dining, travelling, theatre and cinema. Could you love an attractive, classy, 40 something brunette with a career, children, pets and a love of champagne? 3Z3/A23 earlidor. Plse write and make me laugh again Bx 9409

**DYNAMIC** professional lady aged 34, voluptuous brunette seeks vivacious slim gentleman of similar age for fun nights out. Must have GSOH and be interested in Art, Music, Good Food, Wine and Outdoor Pursuits. London and Home Counties. Photo please. Reply to Box No 9424

**GENUINE** Thai ladies wishing to meet genuine English gentlemen. Call Terry Willem on 01763 262134 and meet me for a cup of tea and a chat about the facts.

**LADY** wishes to meet divorced gentleman, mid 60's, connected with the legal profession, for close friendship. Central London. *Box No 9420*

## LADIES

**IS** there someone out there who WLTM a free spirit. My client is a lovely bubbly person, great sense of fun. She is also very attractive, successful, well balanced, independent, loves travel, when she has time boundless energy, the sort of person you are drawn to. Enjoying country pursuits, dining out with someone special, keep fit, riding, animals, opera, Glyndebourne, reading, studying French, having a go at anything new. Are you 48-55, Home Counties, successful, good humoured, active. No fee for introducing you to my client. Contact Heather Haber Percy, Country Partners Tel 01432 342204 office hours or fax 01432 370 381, or write to 9 Riverside Court Wye St Hereford HR2 7BA quoting Bx 9370

**JANUARY** Sale London. Genuinely attractive, blue-eyed blonde, slim, curvy, vivacious, educated, very youthful 50's, finding herself unexpectedly on the shelf very before her self by date, seeks attractive, discerning, caring, same, solvent shopper to swap her ups. Photo appreciated Box No 9346

**LONDON ELITE.** Make a New Year's resolution to find that special partner. For a quality personal service call Elite Introductions 0171 637 7171.

**LONDON** gentlemen - genuine personal introductions to discerning quality ladies. Dovetail 0171 483 3377

**LONDON** Jewish prof, 39, slim, budget, witty, seeks sweet lady. Please Reply to Box No 9341

**LOOKING** for brother-in-law. Already a brilliant mother of one, my sister, slim, 30's, Bath-shire based, would make a fabulous wife to a decent man with GSOH. Must want more children. Box No 9459

**LOVER,** friend, companion, someone special to cherish & share some quality time. I am financially secure, blond, pale skin, petite & called a sensuous pocket venus, with a degree. My husband died suddenly over two years ago. I have no children or other dependents. 40 something, well educated, intelligent, caring, refined, healthy, affectionate, fun, sociable with many interests & friends. Would your life be more fulfilled if you were to meet someone like me? Are you 43-55, a single gentleman, distinguished, solvent, active & intelligent with the common touch? Maybe the very elusive chemistry could be there - if not we could become friends with a similar quest. Please write letter replies only. Area Sussex/ Kent or London. Box No 9411

**NORWICH.** Warm, convivial, not unattractive (curvy slim 12), 40ish, divorced, doctor needs a personable man in her life. Interests: bridge, the arts, cooking, walking & skiing. Please Reply to Box No 9429

**SINGLE,** 40, n/s, seeks sincere prof. male for serious relationship. London/SE Thame, tel no. Please reply to Box No 9412

**STILL** optimistic, warm hearted, fun loving, feminine, Jewish personality, independent & loyal, attractive 50's, seeks wise, strong minded, n/s man for companionship & the usual civilised pursuits. Box No 9360

**SURREY** gentleman - genuine personal introductions to discerning quality ladies. Dovetail 01932 783165

**TALL/elegant/sparky** graduate, WLTM a strong yet sensitive partner/soulmate male, n/s, 42-56 for a fun filled relationship. Letter/photo Bx 9449

**TITIAN** haired, rubenesque woman, 40, WLTM fun, professional man, 35-45, S/S for friendship/ relationship. Let's push work into 2nd place in 1998 & promote wining, dining, theatre, laughter & good times to the top of the list! London/ Surrey, n/s please. Box No 9369

**TRUE** description as follows: Well spoken, very articulate, public school, ex Royal Navy wife, divorcee, naturally pretty, beautiful speaking voice, very artistic, loves music, poetry, reading, National Trust, countryside, living near Bath. WLTM similar social background between 50-70, solvent, over 5'7" No fee for introducing you to my client. Contact Heather Haber Percy, Country Partners Tel 01432 342204 office hours or fax 01432 370 381, or write to 9 Riverside Court Wye St Hereford HR2 7BA quoting Bx 9370

**RICH** lady, Oriental origin, 30's, tall, elegant, caring, witty, well-educated, seeks kind, decent, cultured, professional gentleman for intelligent conversation (including sophistry) and dancers, loving, civilised relationship. Let's make life more enjoyable together. London. Please Reply to Box No 9364

**NOTTS/Leics/Lincs/Derbys 'Elite'** 1000's of attractive/ardent ladies, all ages, seeking romance. Make '98 your year Call now 0115 937 6104 for free information pack

**40's** recently divorced mother, ex-stockbroker, attractive, sporty, vivacious, of independent nature, seeks 40 something male, possibly professional, of independent employment, having travelled an advantage. Please Reply to Box No 9336

**RICHMOND** & Kingston 'Elite' Happy New Life in 1998 KT, TW, US & surrounding areas. For local, quality introductions Call 0181 580 0028 (7 days)

**SENSUOUS,** slim, attractive lady seeks educated, honest gentleman, 60-65, to share walking, talking, travel, theatre. Bath area. Box No 9436

**TRUTHFUL** description of my client is very attractive, lovely legs, slim, elegant, gentle/well spoken, feminine, educated privately, widowed in her late forties. Travel my chosen career but living in Cheshire, travels to London. Interests: theatre, bridge, horse racing, skiing, theatre, dining out. WLTM successful solvent well spoken man from a similar social background between 50 & 60. No fee for introducing you to my client. Contact Heather Haber Percy Country Partners Tel 01432 342204 office hours or fax 01432 370 381, or write to 9 Riverside Court Wye St Hereford HR2 7BA quoting Bx 9376

**WYCHWOOD** BRUNETTE - very attractive 37 years old, single again! slim, good proportioned, enjoys music, keeping fit, cinema, good food/wine & most importantly good company seeks male of similar age & intensity who is considerate and caring with GSOH and fun essential. Cotswold area. Please please. Please Reply to Box No 9362

**WE** have many beautiful Russian women who are interested in meeting with Europeans! Diamond Club 0181 447 0335

**WEST COUNTRY.** Intelligent active, intrinsically attractive, fun loving, flexible 30ish; artistic musical conservationist loves all outdoor & some theatre activities.Box No 9362

**YOUNG** 50, lively, attractive female with many interests seeks attractive, affectionate male, 55 plus. NW London. Please reply to Box No 9397

**Zzzzz,** wake up! Club Encounters is open every day. Call us now FREE on 0800 141141.

## GENTLEMEN

**ABERNEW.** Tall, goodlooking, fun guy, 30's, graduate, lawyer, loving & intelligent, successful, own business. Into music, art, restaurants, clubs, nights in, nights out. This life & TEFF. Seeks tall, slim, accomplished girl for love, fun, life & happiness. Midlands. Box No 9311

**ARE** YOU energetic, feminine, outgoing, quirky and romantic? Then splice up your life with a thinking, fit, loyal, passionate, successful professional man (36, n/s, London) to ward off the winter blues or forever. Letter and many more reply. Please Reply to Box No 9323

**ARE** you active, non-working 55+? Interested in all of life? Eating, sounds, opera, France, food & wine? Reply to Box No 9408

**AUSTRALIA** - Travel partner urgently sought by tall, dark, attractive guy, 30. Age unimportant but must be free to go into January for 3-4 weeks. Affordable, suitable adventure ship. Our ticket will be funded! Please Reply to Box No 9380

**BEAUTIFUL** woman no more diamonds alone & TV is lovely (but-coastal) attractive 50 yr London man awaits letter + photo & who knows Bx 9403

**BLUE-EYED** optimist, 54, failed writer, needs rescuing by feisty female lady to share hole-holding hands, laughter, friendship & romance. Box No 9346

**BOURNEMOUTH** Elite. 100s of truly local, single, all ages, more info! 01202 891500

**BRIGHTON** Elite. For introductions in Sussex call Nigel on 01273 270975 Anytime

**BUSINESSMAN,** 45, 5'7", seeks stunning lady with a caring outlook, 25-35 who likes to laugh & have fun! (Kent/London Bx 9351

**CARING,** warm, prof male & living not (6) wthn gld 20-35 with goals to share eating/ a love of life/ cycling, G&D, fun etc. Please Reply to Box No 9439

**EDUCATED,** sociable, unattached, slim lady, 36-50, London area, sought by successful busy professional man for travel & formal meetings. Write Box No 9397

**EX-PARTBOY,** separated legal professional, 5'11", 52 years (& showing it!). Seeks n/s, cheerful female companion, slightly aged 40-55, Edinburgh area, for fun, theatre, cinema, dining, country walks & friendship. Recent photo appreciated. Please write to Box No 9447

**EX-SPORTSMAN.** Divorced 5 years. Late 50's, dry, slim, own flat/house, n/s, WI/M good looking, well spoken, smartly dressed lady. Warwick/ Solihull/ Sutton Coldfield area. Any hobbies or age but anyone who is important. Must be free to enjoy holidays & entertainment. Guaranteed reply & return of (tasteful) photo. Please reply to Box No 9407

**FUN-LOVING,** attractive country girl, aged 33, WI.TM tall, kind caring & sensitive, successful, man, 30-50, with GSOH. South Coast. Box No 9402

**HAVE** you attitude, intelligence, heart, style & an advanced sense of humour/ fun - Would like to meet a tall thicker male who hopefully possesses most of the above attributes. Please send written response with photo. Don't just think about it! N.West based. Box No 9425

**LADIES,** why write to one when you can meet hundreds of eligible, attractive men by calling Club Encounters FREE on 0800 141 141.

**KOJAK** look-alike, single, 50, would like to find a single brunette/ redhead, 35-45, who has a sense of humour, warmth, beauty & doesn't like the Spice Girls, fireball cars & other 90's rubbish. Photo with letter please. Please Reply to Box No 9354

**LAKE DISTRICT.** Professional male, youthful face 40's, tall, slim, n/s, seeks similarly youthful lady to share interests in travel, walking, conversation & good wine. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 9427

**LEGAL** professional, 30 year old, 5'8, brown haired, blue eyed gentleman, just returned from abroad seeks professional, caring, cultured lady 25-34 for friendship and whatever else develops. London Bx9310

**LEICS/ Warwicks.** Professional gentleman interested in the arts, conversation, entertaining, 5'9" and in fitting WLTM similar n/s lady, possibly in Sixties, to share interests and for companionship. Box No 9164

**LONDON** ladies - genuine personal introductions to discerning quality gentlemen Dovetail 0171 483 3377

**NOTTS/Leics/Lincs/Derbys 'Elite'** 1000's of attractive/ardent ladies, all ages, seeking romance. Make '98 your year. Call us now on 0115 937 6104 for free information pack

**PROFESSIONAL** male, handsome, slim, fit & healthy, friendly, humorous, solvent, interests: travel, music, concerts, good food & wine, seeks attractive lady, 35 to 50, with a dominant personality for permanent relationship. London area. Photo appreciated. Box No 9345

**SUCCESSFUL** grad, 24, working too hard, seeks attractive, intelligent female to help him escape. Photo appreciated Please Reply to Box No 9382

**RICHMOND** & Kingston 'Elite' Happy New Life in 1998 KT, TW, US & surrounding areas. For local, quality introductions Call 0181 580 0028 (7 days)

**RETIRED** successful company director, divorced, enjoying extremely good lifestyle, late 60's, 5'11" tall, slim/medium build, WLTM very attractive, slim divorcee who takes care of her appearance, enjoys foreign travel, dining out, countryside, entertaining, age 55-60. Midlands, London No fee for introducing you to my client. Contact Heather Haber Percy, Country Partners Tel 01432 342204 office hours or fax 01432 370 381, or write to 9 Riverside Court Wye St Hereford HR2 7BA quoting Bx 9378

**SURREY** ladies - genuine personal introductions discussing quality gentlemen Dovetail 01932 783165

**TALL,** eligible gentlemen of means, eager to meet lively, leisure lady. Devon. Please write with photo. Box No 9404

**TALL** intelligent, prof grad. 39, musical, cultured & kind. Seeks 30-somethings (approx) lady for friendship & perhaps more. London/SE. Box No 9396

**VERY** successful SlimShield based executive, 5'10", 12½ stone, divorced, enjoys food, travel, Wimbledon, soccer, Twickenham, Glyndebourne etc. etc. Seeks intelligent, stylish, accomplished, slim, sincere, very attractive, under 45 lady. Photo please. Box No 9417

**WORLDLY,** successful, mature, fit - a good looking considerate man, late 50s, with loads of style, ambition, and the necessary attributes, both material and less tangible, to be interesting to an attractive younger woman, with equal style, wit & integrity. A lady excited by contemporary opportunities whilst appreciating good old fashioned values. For myself, I'm unattached, n/s, open minded to most respects especially men in particularly. West London based - somewhat international I guess, with a grown-up family & work commitments. Interested? Photo & letter please. Box No 9399

**YACHTSMAN** with 40' sailing yacht, based Mediterranean, seeks a/s lady companion, 40-50, to cruise Med this spring & summer. Appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 9349

**Zzzzz,** wake up! Club Encounters is open every day. Call us now FREE on 0800 141141.

**GAY** men London/Home Counties seeking long term relationships - ring Significant Others - the gay intro bureau for professionals. 0171 497 8939

## SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS


**VIRGINIA CHARLES**

*The exclusive introduction agency for people of quality and integrity*

*The Old Brewery, Burford, Oxfordshire OX18 4SG*

*Telephone 01993 824500*

LONDON AND NATIONWIDE

**Sara Eden** PERSONAL INTRODUCTIONS

*"1 stunning success rate... Countless long term relationships"* MAIL ON SUNDAY

You won't believe the type of people we attract, why not come along and see for yourself, there's no obligation and we could change your life forever!

Windsor 01753 830350 London: 0171 499 9626

*Eden House - 58 Thames Street - Windsor - SL4 1PR*

**drawing down *the* moon** THE ORIGINAL PERSONAL INTRODUCTION AGENCY

Probably the *best* agency in the world

0171-937 6263

*Head Office:* Adam & Eve Mews, Kensington
*City Office:* Cannon Street
24 hours. Member ABIA. Est.1984

DOCTORS • ARCHITECTS • BANKERS • ACCOUNTANTS • STOCKBROKERS • EDUCATIONALISTS
ADVERTISING • WRITERS • MARKETING
MEDIA COMPANY DIRECTORS • LAWYERS • PR

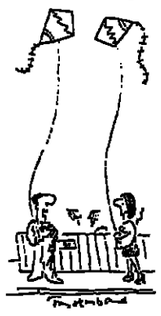
**ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:**
BOX No: .....
c/o THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD
P.O.BOX 3553.
VIRGINIA ST.
LONDON, E1 9GA

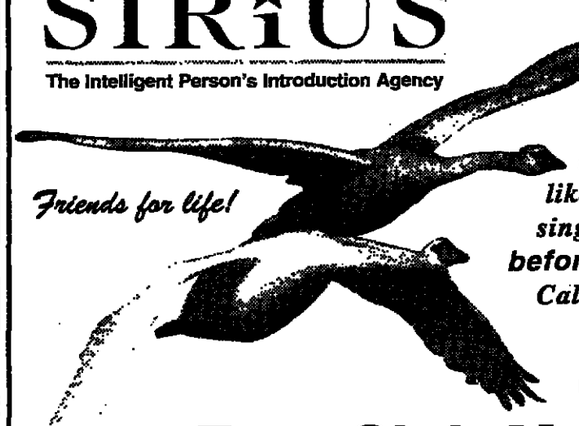
31a St James's Square, London SW1V
*Heidi Fisher's* EXECUTIVE CLUB est.1971
*for quality*
JEWISH
● Personal Introductions ● Dinner Parties
0181 203 4661
54-58 High Street, Edgware HA8 7EJ

**Country Partners**
Probably the only Agency that accepts members up to 80 years old.
A truly personal service.
Code of Practice supported by OFT
Tel MRS HEBER PERCY
01432 342204 24hrs
or Fax 01432 370381 for details

THE TIMES cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the *first time* it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

**ASSIGNATIONS**
*Lesley Hudson-Jessop*
(ex Professional Headhunter)
Home interviews and professional skills lead to tailor made introductions
LONDON AND M4 CORRIDOR
01225 482905

"You must be Molly!"

People have been meeting since 1960 through
Katharine Allen
18 Thayer St
London W1M 5LD
Tel: 0171 935 3115

**SIRIUS**
The Intelligent Person's Introduction Agency
As featured in **ITV Documentary**
Thurs 22nd Jan at 9pm

*Friends for life!*
*Club Sirius - for the intelligent, articulate and well educated, providing personal interviews and of course complete discretion at all times. Would you like a detailed description* of every single member in your local area, before you decide to join? Certainly! Call us free and ask for your free Information Pack.*
**0800 542 6000**
**Free Club Magazine**
Listing nearly 10,000 current members
*anonymity maintained at all times
8.30am to 10.30pm 7 days a week or write to FREEPOST 305 London EC1B 1SY
BSI REGISTERED FIRM Cert FS38813 ABIA Member

**GUYS – READ THIS!**
**The problem**
Have you ever thought how difficult it is for attractive, intelligent, successful women to meet guys they can relate to? If they're in the top ten per cent of society intellectually, that means ninety per cent of the men they meet are non-starters. That's just on intelligence, let alone personality and 'the wife'. Assuming that you're unattached and could match their intellect, where could they go to meet you? And the probability of that? So now you know why we always have top quality ladies. If you do not understand the problem, go straight to the end of this ad. →
**The solution**
Join us. We always need high quality gentlemen. However, you will need to be aged over 25,. well-spoken, intelligent, at least 5'6" tall, successful in your career and completely unattached (no wife or mummy thank you). If you can't meet this specification, go straight to the end of this ad. →
**The choices**
1. Continue with the 'bimbo route' and hope you will eventually bump into someone classy.
2. Do something positive. Call The Executive Club on 07000 499 8833 and we'll spoil you
3. Save your money - The Executive Club will not work for you.
E.C. E.C.

31A St James's Square London SW1
*Celebrities to secretaries*
*The* EXECUTIVE *Club*
*Since 1985 people of quality have been introduced through our exclusive social events and superb introduction service. We invite membership to complement almost certainly the largest selection of unattached professionals in the UK.*
● *Personal introductions* ● *Social events*
http://www.executivoclub-uk.com/e-ec
0171 499 8833
DINNER PARTIES
On behalf of our members we invite unattached professionals to our exclusive parties. We hold dinner parties, dinner dances and cocktail parties at some of London's finest venues. Social membership to our organisation costs £40 for 3 months or £125 for 2 years. For those seeking to find someone special our introduction service ranges from £240 for a basic membership to as much as £4,500 if you are someone very special. We invite you to call us so we may tell you more about our services and what makes us so different.
DINNER PARTY SATURDAY EVENING. Meet at 7.30 for a champagne reception followed by four-course meal with coffee and unlimited wine, then dancing until midnight at a top London hotel. Ambience – first class; cuisine – superb; company – outstanding; but after all we are the Executive Club
E.C. E.C.

1a Village Square, Brighton Marina
*The* EXECUTIVE *Club at*
BRIGHTON
*Marina*
*For Introductions in Sussex*
01273 818100

ABUNDANCE OF STUNNING LADIES -
Shortage of nice men!
Life could be more fun if you call
*Candleburners*
has some super chaps already but you get snapped up very quickly so we always need more. Personal introductions and fundamental fixings for attractive professional people.
Please call Cheryl Brown
Est 1990 0171 351 5535

**MORE!** LOCAL OFFICES NATIONWIDE. **MORE!** LOCAL CLIENTS TO MEET. **MORE!**
LONDON ELITE
ONE HARLEY ST, W1: 0171-637 7171
*See personal columns here*
Elite Introductions
10AM - 10PM EVERYDAY.
FREE CALL LOCAL OFFICE:
0500-003~~111~~

**Dateline**
*"The U.K.'s largest agency..."*
THE INDEPENDENT
For free details in absolute confidence: Dept N, Dateline, 25 Abingdon Rd. London W8 6AL
01869 324 100

MUSIC LOVERS
Classical Partners
"Astonishingly successful" Daily Telegraph & BBC Radio 3
The Natural way to meet someone special individually or at our own musical evenings
Galas Evenings
Sat Jan 31st
VALENTINES DAY CONCERTS
in London & Oxford
0181 903 6211 (Office)
01923 853826 (24 Temple Members Nationwide

**RENDEZVOUS**
**TO PLACE AN AD...**
BY PHONE
**0171 481 4000**
BY POST, FAX OR EMAIL
Post: please attach your wording to the coupon adjacent. Advertise for only £11.75 per line and a single box charge of £11.75, (box number is open 28 days)
All advertisers will now receive postal replies *and* voice mail response facility at no extra charge.
**TO RESPOND TO AN AD...**
BY VOICE MAIL
When responding to an advertiser call 0897 505 563 (*calls cost £1.00 per minute at all times*) and then follow the simple voice instructions.
BY POST
All postal replies should be addressed to Box No.... c/o The Times, P.O. Box 3553, Virginia Street, London E1 9GA.
Fax: 0171 481 9313 or E-mail, Veronica.Collins@newsint.co.uk
THE TIMES




RENDEZVOUS
NAME:
ADDRESS:
POSTCODE:
TEL.(DAY):
CARD NO: ACCESS ☐ VISA ☐ AMEX ☐
EXPIRY DATE:
SIGNATURE:
This offer is open to private advertisers only. Trade advertisers will appear subject to normal rates and conditions. Please attach your wording and send to: The Times Rendezvous, Classified Advertising, PO Box 484, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9BL


Published at 6HS, telephone 0151-546 2000 Saturday, January 17, 1998

هيكذا من الجرائد



'My son's eyes were fixed on the stage and he was hardly breathing. He sat motionless and silent throughout the second half'

# An early aptitude for drama

LIFE AND SOUL



JANE SHILLING

We went to see *Peter Pan* at the weekend, an expedition not lightly undertaken, I can tell you. If Captain Scott had known in advance what was to become of him, he could not have embarked on his journey with more foreboding than I did on mine.

Some weeks before Christmas, it had seemed like a good idea. Leafing through *Country Life* in my perpetual quest for the House In Which I Should Like To Die, I came across an article enthusing about the forthcoming *Peter Pan* at the National. It brought back happy memories of Christmas treats with my own dear grandparents — the time I was sick; the time I left my rabbit on the train; not to mention the very best time of all, when one of the swans in *Swan Lake* slipped on a snowflake and fell over.

The phone rang. My mother had been thinking the same thing. Only it was bad news: She had rung the National and there were no matinée tickets left. I rang the National myself. There was a good deal of tooth sucking and then — a result! They *did* have some tickets for January. Anything, I said gratefully. Ah, but there were only two of them.

This was a heavy blow. I had been counting on the presence of the grandparents to keep Alexander down. There are figures in Alexander's life whom he loves and obeys — his teacher, Miss Carter, for example, and Linda, his nanny, whose power is such that if she fixed a ravening tiger with her eye, it would certainly go and sit down quietly in a corner of the jungle — but I am not one of them. With me, he has an outstandingly successful technique of passive resistance — *sotto voce* singing, very slow walking, and the simple, but devastating, Going Completely Limp In The Road — whenever I call upon him to do something he considers boring.

"Boring" means, roughly, anything that an adult might like doing. Going to restaurants, other than McDonald's, for example, is super boring. It hasn't always been thus. As an angelic three-year-old, he treated restaurants with aplomb, settling graciously on to the piles of cushions provided by bowing waiters and toying elegantly (often remembering to use a knife and fork) with a choice bit of fish and an ice-cream. But not any more. These days he is the lunch guest from hell.

One day last spring, when my friend Charles took us out, he behaved so badly that eventually we *both* burst into tears in the middle of the restaurant, delighting Charles, who said he hadn't been so amused since his last visit to see the apes at the zoo.

Now, I am not quite sure whether trips to the theatre count as boring or not. The evidence is inconclusive. Grandma took him to see *The Borrowers* (and didn't invite me, which I thought was jolly mean. I particularly wanted to see it, because it was produced by a girl who once spent an entire Latin lesson stuffing the end of my pigtail down an inkwell with her fountain pen). Grandma said he behaved very well, but later confessed that this might have been because every time he opened his mouth, she stuck a jelly baby in it.

The auguries, when we left the house, were not good. We had had a brisk contretemps about whether Mr Panda could accompany us, which ended with Alexander stamping down the road saying, "Stupid play. I'm going to watch it with my eyes shut" and me hissing, "I don't care if you watch it from under the seat so long as you do it in silence!" We arrived, most unusually for us, rather early, but already in the auditorium was a fair sprinkling of Lost Boys — middle-aged men in nicely pressed shirts with very neat haircuts and wistful expressions. No trouble from *them*, then.

But as we sat there, the place gradually filled with a hideous caterwauling, as doting grandmas, who had taken their diamonds out of the bank for the occasion, led in a steady stream of wailing moppets, in prickly net petticoats. There was no escape. For the next three hours I was going to have to listen to Wendy and Tinkerbell battling for air space against a barrage of howls and screams and peremptory demands for plot summaries and visits to the lavatory *Now, this minute!*

It's not even as though I like the theatre very much. All that shouting and showing-off on stage has never really worked its magic on me. I could feel a huge sulk coming on. But then the lights went down and so, like a miracle, did the noise. Whatever it was — the flying children, the prowling redskins or perhaps the sight of Sir Ian McKellen in skintight black satin pantaloons and an Old Etonian tie — it shut them up like a jack-in-the-box. I looked at Alexander. His eyes were fixed on the stage, and he was hardly breathing. He swigged his Coke during the interval and pointed out Big Ben ("It's the clock in the story") like an old boulevardier. And then he sat motionless and silent through the second half, booing politely as required.

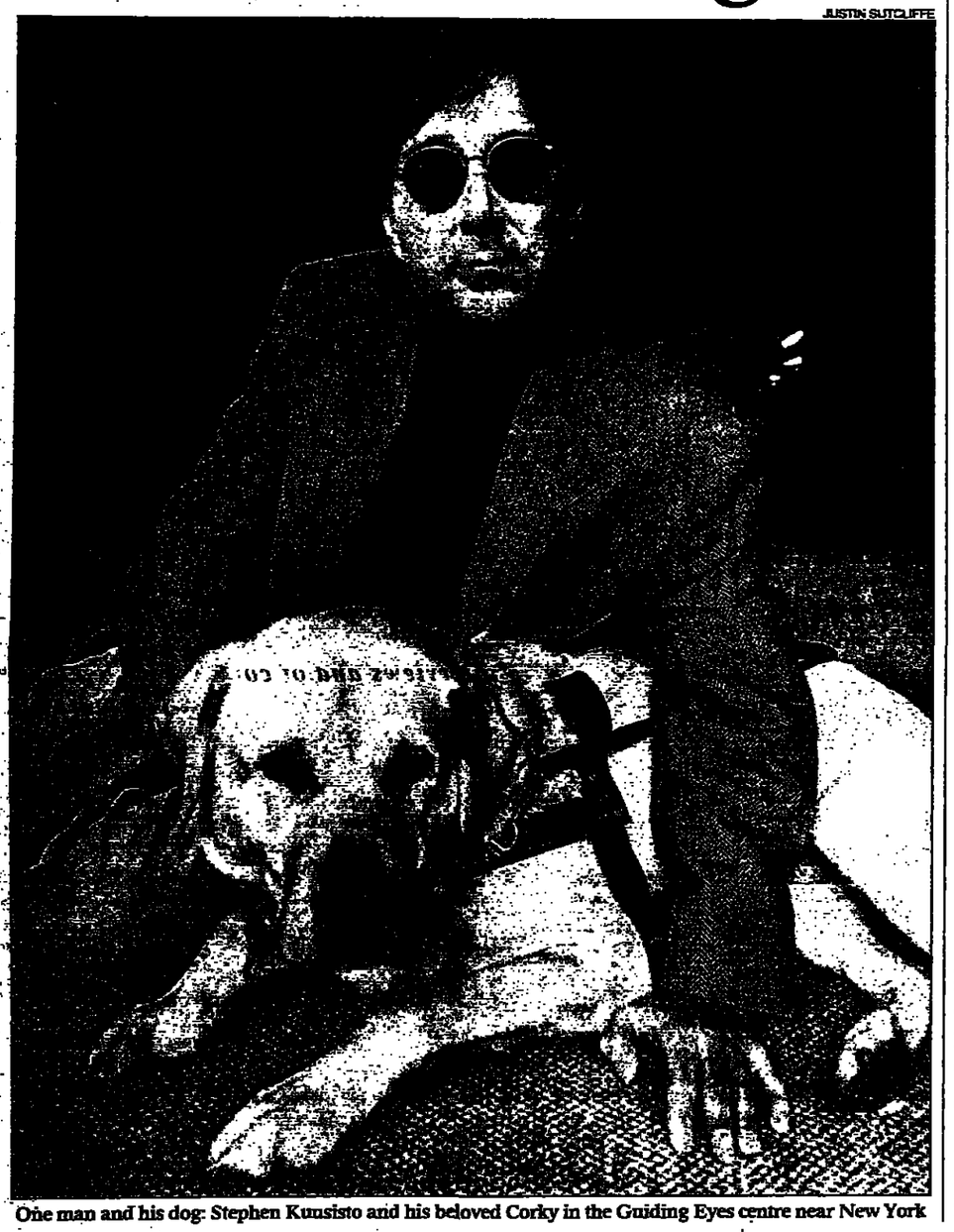
"So," I said on the way home, "did you like it?" "Yeah," he said. "I think I'll have scrambled eggs for tea, please." "Oh," I said, a bit deflated. "Right ho."

Next morning, he was late down to breakfast. Eventually, the stair door opened and an apparition stepped out, dressed all in green. Green socks, green trousers, green jumper, little green pixie hat. Sweet enough (and I fear, camp enough) to bring tears to the eyes. "Who are you?" I asked, as though I didn't know. "I am Peter Pan," said the apparition. "And you can be Wendy if you like."

# 'The blind are not shut off from the world of light'

**James Bone** talks to a remarkable man who, although being blind, lived much of his life as a sighted person

JUSTIN SUTCLIFFE



One man and his dog: Stephen Kuusisto and his beloved Corky in the Guiding Eyes centre near New York

Stephen Kuusisto comes bounding from his corner office to greet me, skilfully manoeuvring past the door jamb and offering his outstretched hand in my general direction. "You're a big guy," he declares. An innocuous comment, but Mr Kuusisto is blind. His opening gambit is clearly designed to confound my expectations. I press him for more details.

"I can't tell what you look like," he says. "I know you are wearing black. If I were to get indecently close to you — put my nose on the tip of your nose — I may have more sense of what you look like.

"Many people believe the blind see nothing, that they are shut off from the world of light. That is not really the case."

It is true that I am wearing dark grey trousers, a black cardigan and a black-and-white checked sports jacket. Expecting just such a greeting, however, I have played a mean trick. Before leaving home, I changed into a bright red shirt that is visible at the collar. I do not mention this fact at first.

When we venture outside with his guide dog, I casually mention the shirt. Mr Kuusisto seems genuinely dismayed that he did not catch a flash of scarlet through the prism of his damaged eyes. Standing four feet away from me in the dusk, he admits: "Now I can't see you at all."

I tell this story not to show how easy it was to hoodwink a blind person (perish the thought), but as an example of the shifting sands on which Mr Kuusisto must live. If he was put on this Earth for a reason, it was to bring home the message that blindness is not a black-or-white matter. A former teacher of creative writing and a published poet, he does so beautifully in his memoir, *Planet of the Blind*, to be published on February 2.

"I live in a world of colours and shapes," he says. "It is a world of continuous misapprehension. Things appear and disappear in strange ways. In some ways, it's frightening. In other respects, it's rather beautiful."

A college professor's son and a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Mr Kuusisto is well read and once travelled to Madrid to view the Prado, only to be thwarted by the velvet ropes that kept him too far back to get an eyeful of Velázquez or Goya.

He compares his world to living inside an immense abstract painting, like a Jackson Pollock canvas. "I have had moments when there is no guard in the room and I have run up to a painting and put my nose on it and got a sense of its colour and texture," he confesses. "One square inch of a Pollock painting has a lot in it. Of course, the point is to see it all. It's not the case that I could tell you a heck of a lot about a Pollock painting — but then who could?"



Kuusisto as a young boy exploring a guitar

Mr Kuusisto has been blind since the premature birth that claimed the life of his identical twin 42 years ago. Placed in an over-oxygenated incubator, he suffered the then-common condition known as "retinopathy of prematurity" as well as the complications of nystagmus, which made his eyes dart about uncontrollably, and strabismus, or crossed eyes.

The closest he ever came to seeing was to be able to read large print from an inch away with his left eye — an ability he lost because of cataracts two years ago.

While growing up in New England, his mother refused to acknowledge the severity of his disability and insisted that he attend an ordinary school. Mr Kuusisto spent his youth trying to "pass" for a sighted person, jogging perilously along the river bank and riding a bicycle into near oblivion. He graduated from university, spent a lonely year retracing his family's roots in Finland on a Fulbright Fellowship, and secured a job teaching creative writing at his former college.

He was "addicted to independence". Only at the age of 36 did he finally agree to use a white stick, and it was another three years before he got his beloved guide dog, Corky. "I was a cross between Conan the Barbarian and Charlie Chaplin, unable really to see but making my way about the world at high speed," he says.

Ironically, Mr Kuusisto's visit to Britain next month to promote his book will be severely inconvenienced by UK quarantine regulations. Corky will have to stay at home — in case she has rabies.

Mr Kuusisto now works as the director of student services at Guiding Eyes, one of ten non-profit-making institutions in America that provide guide dogs and free training to the blind. Its campus north of New York City offers Mr Kuusisto a comfortable domain. He has a "speaking computer" that announces every command in an electronic voice. Only once while I was there did his arms flail out before him, seeking for direction, as he lost his way.

Even inside, he wears a pair of sporty purple sunglasses with gold frames. Far from being impervious to light, he is actually troubled by it. Daylight hurts and electric lighting causes stabbing pain. He says the sighted often believe, mistakenly, that blind people wear dark glasses to hide disfigured eyes, a condition that is now increasingly rare.

Guiding Eyes is also home to Mr Kuusisto's true love, Connie, a sighted dog-trainer and aerobics instructor. They plan to marry on April 11. With Connie, he can enjoy the intimacy of lying eyelash to eyelash and stare into her "wonderful blue eyes".

To Mr Kuusisto this might seem something of a miracle. As a blind adolescent who would press his face deep into the pages of a mail-order catalogue to see the lingerie models, he had an understandable fear of relating to the opposite sex. At 17, his insecurity manifested itself in anorexia nervosa, a condition rare in teenage boys. He is 5ft 7in tall but his weight dropped to seven stone.

At the depth of his depression, he discovered an anthology of contemporary verse called *Naked Poetry*, featuring the work of 20th-century American poets, including Kenneth Rexroth and Robert Bly. "I began reading these poems and discovered a vivid, very vital, life-affirming energy," he says.

"I found real life in a way I had not before. It quickened me. What a wonderful thing to have an image coming to you through language when you can't see."

As he speaks, he finds it hard to escape the skeins of words he is winding. He is obviously intoxicated by language, and his next project is a Post-Modern novel about a dozen fictional characters whose lives are touched by the Italian opera singer Enrico Caruso. The first international singing star, Caruso was not blind but he did once sing for Helen Keller, who was blind and deaf, by running her fingertips over his vocal chords so she could hear him.

For Mr Kuusisto, that is a moment of the purest poetry.

● *Times readers can buy Stephen Kuusisto's book,* Planet of the Blind, *for £8.99 (RRP £9.99) by calling* The Times Bookshop *on 0990 134459.*

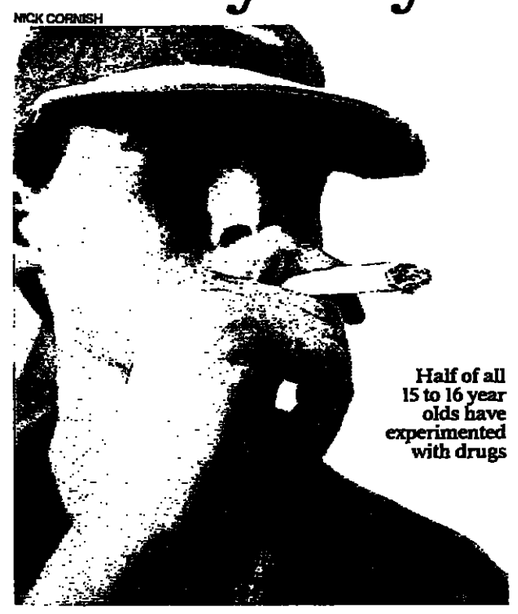


William Straw

Parents can't take all the blame for teenage drug taking, says **Madeleine Kingsley**

# Whose life is it anyway?

NICK CORNISH



Half of all 15 to 16 year olds have experimented with drugs

When a teenager turns to drugs, whose crime is it? The Government would have us believe that responsibility for "wayward" children — which includes those who smoke cannabis — lies squarely with their parents.

If so, then we must be suffering a positive pandemic of feckless parenthood, because drug taking among 14 to 15 year olds has increased eightfold in the past ten years, and half of all 15 to 16 year olds have experimented with some illegal substance, according to Scoda (Standing Conference on Drug Abuse). Some 700,000 Ecstasy tablets are downed every weekend.

The Government seems to think that hitting parents in the pocket will help. Last September, Jack Straw proposed £1,000 fines for parents enjoined to "take proper care" of their young and failing to comply. But won't even the Home Secretary have a rethink following his 17-year-old son William's caution on Tuesday after admitting that he sold £10 of cannabis to a newspaper reporter?

Personal experience must now persuade him that the "wacky baccy" youth culture has a compelling allure against which even the most upright parents are helpless. Perhaps they always were. Sir David Steel's idealism did nothing to prevent his eldest son Graeme growing cannabis plants with a street value of £30,000. If the present government proposals had applied 30 years ago, then the Queen would arguably have been carpeted when, far from home and the royal beady eye, the underage Prince Charles quaffed a cherry brandy.

"Our children see drugs in a different light from us," says Anne Marshall, the director of the charity Adfam National. "They regard takings stuff as normal. They use it recreationally because it's fun and that is hideous for us to contemplate. Yet short of clapping them in leg irons until they are 30, you can't stop teenagers doing what you disapprove of."

Carrying out my own Straw poll of teenagers, not one of the 12 or so young people I talked to held parents responsible for drugtaking. Joe, 17, and a trainee electrician, says: "Stand in a nightclub queue and if you're not being asked if you've got any 'Es' to dispense, you're being offered them. If you take them it's through boredom or weakness of character. Your mum and dad just don't come into it."

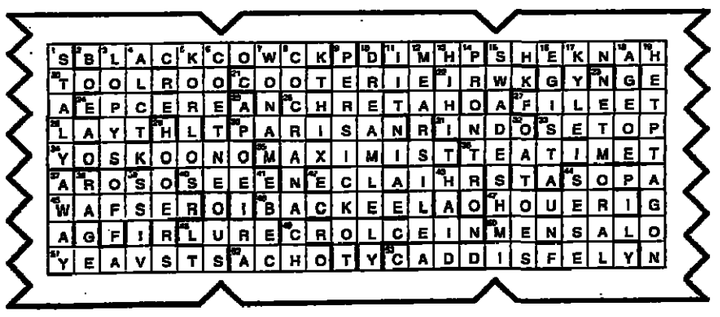
"The death of Leah Betts was a huge signpost of how little influence parents have," says Josh, 19, an English student who's smoked dope since he was 16. "Leah's dad was a policeman and her mum a nurse and they seemed to represent the bedrock of our society. So if their kid was going to take Ecstasy and die, what point can there be in blaming parents? The culture's here to stay. We may as well accept it and make it work as safely as possible. In Holland they have undercover policemen in clubs, not to nick drugtakers but to check the quality of the pills."

Josh feels that the best approach for parents would be "a little more enlightenment and a little less moral indignation from the generation that feels free to kill itself slowly with tobacco and booze". Bill Clinton, Josh points out, smoked dope. "He's ended up President of the United States, so there must be some hope for the rest of us."

Realistic drug education in schools could do more for teenage health than the combined forces of adult angst and prohibition. Meanwhile, parents will continue to go grey as their children bump through turbulent times.

● *The Adfam National drugs helpline for families and friends of users is open Mondays to Fridays, 10am-5pm, 0171-928 8900.*

## SOLUTION TO CHRISTMAS LISTENER CROSSWORD



**Solution and notes for Christmas Puzzle by Smokey**

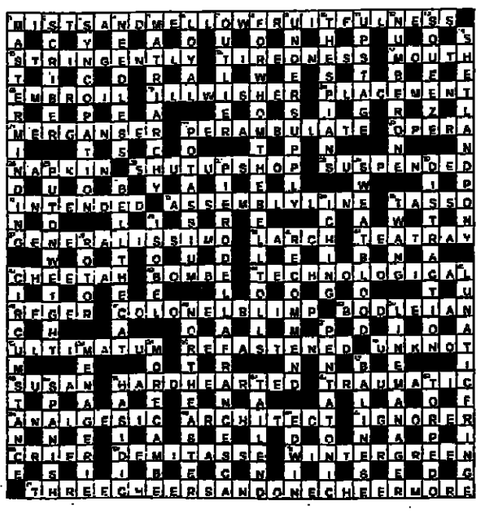
The extra letters spell WHO WRITES THOSE LOVELY CRACKER MOTTOES? (a modified form of a quotation from *The 'Bab' Ballads* by W.S. Gilbert).

The omitted letters spell I'M IT WITH XMAS CRACKERS (modified form of P. Hurst's prize-winning clue in Ximenes competition puzzle number 1123, August 1970).

The answer to both question and clue is 35a MAXIMIST

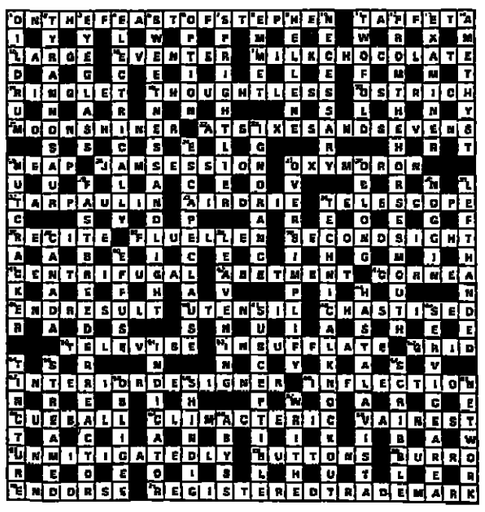
The winner of a jeroboam of Moët & Chandon champagne is: P. Machin, London N17.

## SOLUTION TO CHRISTMAS JUMBO 141



The winner is Peter Thorne, of London SW6

## SOLUTION TO BOXING DAY JUMBO 142



The winner is Mrs E.R. Walker, of Hungerford, Berkshire

SHOPAROUND
CONTINUES ON PAGE 38
TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION PLEASE CONTACT DOROTHY AYNSLEY ON
0171 680 6861

## Pure Silk Boxer Shorts



£12.95 POST FREE! Finest quality money can buy

2 PAIRS ONLY £9.95 each

- 100% pure twill silk • Machine washable
- Strong, double seams for longer wear.
- Available in Burgundy, Cream, Olive, Green, Navy, Claret, Royal or Black.
- Waist sizes from 30" - 44"

Refund if not delighted.

3 Day Despatch

FREE Brochure - THREADS OF SILK COLLECTION

24 HOUR ORDER & BROCHURE HOTLINE
0171 274 3382

MODERN SILK Dept TT88, FREEPOST, PO Box 3432, London SE5 9BR.

## As Essential as your lipstick

The new 'Fragrance Pen' from Cassolette is a refillable pen-shaped perfume vial, filled with 4ml fine fragrance, that is perfect for any occasion.

At convenient as your credit card
Gift boxed, with refilling funnel.
Only £5.95 inc p&p
With a choice of Eau de Parfum
Coolsun - A floral aldehydic chypre combination.
Flo - A fruity spice chypre combination
Naughty - An oriental amber woody citrus combination




Tel/Fax 01282 751194 or write to Cassolette & Co, PO Box 3250, BB13 6ZR

## GOLD COINS

Available now at unrepeatable prices!
eg. SOVEREIGNS ONLY £70 EACH (In excellent condition)



PETER MORRIS, PO Box 223, Bromley, Kent BR1 4EQ. Tel 0181 313 3410. Fax 0181 466 8502

## GLOBES



make great gifts for all occasions.

Colour brochure & price list of our full range on request.

Visit us: (Open Mon-Fri 8.30-5.30) (Sat 09.30 to 12.30)

GLOBE & MAPWORLD, 55 High St, Dudleigh Saltarton, Devon
Tel/Fax (01395) 442171.

## New TECTRON® MINI-CHUCK INSTANTLY CONVERTS A POWER SCREWDRIVER




INTO A VERSATILE POWER DRILL FOR ONLY £5.95

NOW, DRILL & SCREW with just ONE lightweight tool. The powerful turning force of any cordless screwdriver can be converted to drilling by inserting this strong steel TECTRON® MINI-CHUCK. So much faster and more convenient for most drilling or fixing jobs, because it's compact and lightweight. Ideal in awkward or difficult-to-reach areas.
Will take any bit up to 6mm (1/4" dia).
In independent laboratory tests using a standard 2.4v screwdriver it took approx. 45 secs to drill a 6mm (1/4" dia.) hole in 1" thick oak; 35 secs in 3mm perspex; 80 secs in 2mm alum. sheet.
Available by mail order only from JusTools at £5.95 + £1.50 p&p.
SAVE £1.50 - 2 for £13.40 incl. p&p
Money refund guarantee.
Allow 14/21 day delivery.
Send cheque/POs payable to JusTools.
MASTERCARD/VISA orders on 01536 720130
JUSTOOLS (Dept TC3) 88 Station Road, Burton Latimer, NORTHANTS NN15 5JW
JusTools U.K. Regd. T.M. No. 2105264

## HOT WHEAT-a-BOTTLE

*Alternative hot water bottle*

■Takes 2 minutes to prepare ■Lasts for years ■Soothes aches & pains for hours



Use as a water bottle or for pain relief. Helps with Arthritis, Rheumatism, stiff joints. Heat in microwave for 2 mins to activate pure wheat grains that retain heat for hours. Very Safe. No boiling water. Use it anytime. Soft and supple to mould to your body. Money refund guarantee, 24 hour despatch. New range of novely shaped kittens, puppies

ALL only £9.95 each plus £2 P&P (order two or more P&P FREE).
Send cheque, PO, Visa, Mastercard No. to:
L.J. Promotions, Dept T4, FREEPOST NEA 1693, HARROGATE, HG2 7BR.
ORDER LINE 24Hr 0800 731 7467 (Quote ref T2)

## NETSUKE :

Superb, contemp. Hand-carved wood animals and insects. Illus. Leaflet and prices.

Tel/Fax:
01795 873485

## DUST MITE PROBLEMS?

TRY THE ONLY PATENTED MITE FREE BEDDING COVERS

Allergy Relief Products Ltd, Mansion Road, Southampton, SO15 3BP.

Tel/Fax 01703 332919.

## Condoms DIRECT

Large Pack 16 Condoms

BROWN & COLOURS 35 £5.95
AMES NATURAL 35 £9.95
RIBBED DOTTED SAFE 35 £9.95
VIBREX PLEASURE 35 £11.50
SUPER CONSOURER 35 £11.95

CHEAPEST NOW! FAST LARGEST aes

CHEAPEST Condoms DIRECT
Dept TT88 PO BOX 12 WORTHING BN14 8RY

TEL: 07000 4 SAFE SEX
(07000 472337)

## "Find out why Stannah is the world's most chosen stairlift."

RAYMOND BAXTER

Free survey. Fast installation. 24-hour call out. Full warranty.
Call or write 0800 715 422 ext. 3056

Name
Address
Postcode
Tel. No.

Stannah Stairlifts. Dept 3056, FREEPOST SA344, Andover, Hants SP10 3BR.

Stannah Stairlifts
The world's most chosen stairlift

## Dunlopillo LATEX also




FFC exclusive FOAMS

cut to size for cushions & mattresses




NEW CUSHIONS For chairs, suites, bench seating etc. Uncovered or with our own fitted covers.

MATTRESSES Made to measure any size and to your individual comfort.

MATTRESS OVERLAYS A separate 2 in. deep layer for instant relief on a too hard bed.

EVERYTHING DELIVERED SAFELY TO YOUR DOOR. (Fax: 0113 274 8102)

PHONE 0113 274 8100
or post coupon for colour brochure, measuring guide and direct prices.

Please send stamp for colour brochure or phone.

Mr/Mrs/Miss
(CAPITALS)
Address
Postcode

FFC FOAM FOR COMFORT Dept T2, Unit Two, Wyther Lane Industrial Estate, Wyther Lane, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3BT.

## Enjoy using and improving your FRENCH with La Vie Outre-Manche

*The French language magazine for UK readers*

Entertaining articles in French: current affairs, tourism, activities; plus humour, crossword, etc.
Used and recommended by many French teachers, this bi-monthly magazine contains many translation aids to assist comprehension and enjoyment.
Subscribe now and receive our FREE pull-out STUDY GUIDES
12-month subscription: £15.60 (post free)
Orders (post free) to: La Vie Outre-Manche
FREEPOST, MA 1311(M), Maidstone ME15 9BR

## MEN DOES YOUR SIZE & POTENCY MATTER?

Our FREE report brochure details completely SAFE & NATURAL techniques you can use in your home to enlarge your penis and improve your potency. Developed by Harley Street & World Wide Experts.

NO SURGERY OR INJECTIONS REQUIRED

Our many testimonials prove excellent results within 4 WEEKS
ACT NOW to receive your FREE report (send under plain and confidential cover).

Send 2 x 1st class stamps to Dash Publishing (Dept TM) Freepost, PO Box 22 Plymstock, Plymouth, PL8 2BR

## SAME DAY DISCREET MAIL ORDER SERVICE — CONDOMS

| INTRODUCTORY OFFER LOWEST EVER PRICES | OUR PRICE | High Street | YOU SAVE |
|---|---|---|---|
| WORLDS BEST, Luxury Assortment (40) | £16.00 | £26.60 | £10.60 |
| DUREX, Fetherlite (36) | £14.00 | £23.67 | £9.67 |
| WORLDS BEST, Climax, Size: Med (40) | £18.00 | £24.45 | £6.45 |
| DUREX, Extra Safe (36) | £16.00 | £23.07 | £7.07 |
| DUREX, Gossamer (36) | £14.00 | £20.07 | £6.07 |
| WORLDS BEST, Sensi Rib, Size: L (40) | £16.00 | £21.98 | £5.98 |
| MATES, Natural (36) | £15.00 | £17.85 | £2.98 |

Your name will not be recorded in any way. No follow-up mail. We only sell quality condoms. Send your order or send for FREE colour brochure

NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE
11117/1

CHEQUES/PO's to QUICK & DIRECT, FREEPOST (KT4162) (No stamp required) WALTON ON THAMES, SURREY KT12 1BR (Tel: 01932 232443)

## Made to measure men's suits, jackets & trousers - any shape - any size



- Traditional British quality tailoring.
- 100's of styles in over 100 cloths - pleats, button fly, single & double breasted.
- Simple self-measurement system in the comfort of your own home or measurements taken from your own garments.
- Mail order service.
- Overseas enquiries welcome

From £39.95

Winebergs - Est. 1900 -

FREE Brochure & Sample cloths call 0113 248 8131

Dept TT, Carmart House, 15-19 Cowper Road, Leeds LS9 7BR

## Doctor Reveals how he Lowered Cholesterol by 15% in just 6 Weeks and reduced the risk of Heart Disease by an estimated 30%

Heart disease remains the biggest single cause of death in the UK and we have one of the highest incidences of heart disease in the world.
Now a renowned expert on cholesterol and heart disease reveals simple but medically proven techniques, endorsed by the British Heart Foundation, that can stimulate your arteries to cleanse themselves naturally, without the use of drugs or surgery.
These amazing revelations are made in an important new video presentation called "Lower your Cholesterol in Six Weeks". During the programme *you will see presenter Anne Diamond in* conversation with world renowned Cholesterol Expert, Dr. Gilbert Thompson MDFRCP. Dr. Thompson explains in detail how you can naturally activate your body's own built-in artery cleaning mechanism.
'Lower Your Cholesterol in Six Weeks' is based 5 on tried and tested scientific principals designed to:-
- Quickly and significantly reduce your risk to heart disease.
- Thin out sludgy, poor circulating blood.
- Lower high blood pressure naturally.
- Alleviate the symptoms of high blood pressure and poor circulation (leg pain, cramp, dizziness, partial loss of hearing for example).
- Make your body dispose of damaging cholesterol.
- Quickly and significantly reduce the risk of requiring bypass surgery.

By following Dr.Thompson's advice you can significantly lower your cholesterol in just six weeks and ensure that you enjoy better health in years to come.
Here's just a small sample of the information you will find.
- *How to limit your cholesterol intake.*
- Measuring the cholesterol in your food.
- What is stress and how does it effect your blood pressure.
- Which everyday fast-food lowers your cholesterol.
- *A tasty cholesterol-lowering breakfast.*
- Fish that thin the blood.
- How to prepare and cook delicious meals that will actually lower your cholesterol.
- Tips on eating out.
- The truth about smoking and heart disease.
- The truth about polyunsaturated fats.

"Lower Your Cholesterol in Six Weeks" offers you the unique opportunity to consider for yourself the incredibly important yet astonishingly simple advice of a leading expert in their field.
Order now under our full money back guarantee of satisfaction for only £12.95 plus £2.05 p&p. Or *SAVE £5 and buy two for only £25 POST FREE.*
To order phone the 24 hour credit card hotline below, or simply fill in the coupon below.

ACCESS, VISA & SWITCH
0116 274 3000

Millar Marketing Ltd, (Dept. LC13TT), Hawarden Avenue, off Coleman Road, Leicester LE5 4NN.
Make cheques payable to Millar Marketing Readers Account.
Please allow 7-14 days for despatch. Reg. No. 2660293

Post to: Millar Marketing Ltd. (Dept. LC13TT), Hawarden Avenue, off Coleman Road, Leicester LE5 4NN.

Please send me the video(s) 'Lower Your Cholestrol In Six Weeks' as indicated:
☐ 1 Video @ £12.95 + £2.05 p&p = £15.
☐ SAVE £5 Buy 2 for just £25 POST FREE.
I enclose cheque/P.O. for £_____ inc p&p, made payable to: Millar Marketing Ltd. Readers Account. Or debit my Access, Visa or Switch Card
No.
Switch issue no. _____ Expiry Date
Signature
Mr/Mrs/Miss
Address
Postcode
☐ If you do not wish to receive further offers from us, or from companies we recommend, please tick the box. Millar Marketing Ltd. Reg. No. 2660293.

## THE DUFFLECOAT COMPANY




JANUARY SALE

£147.95 plus p&p

The very finest dufflecoats made in England by Gloverall.

This is the classic and unchanged design made to last and keep you warm year after year. £147.95 plus £4 postage and packing. Colours: Cardinal Red, Navy Blue, Conifer, Camel, Charcoal Grey and Teal. Sizes: 32"- 48" or ladies 8-20.

For 7 day despatch or full colour brochure call.

Made in England
0171 610 9050
The Dufflecoat Company, Unit 7, The Talina Centre, Bagleys Lane, London SW6 2BW. Fax 0171 371 7011
You may be sent details of other offers. Please specify if you do not wish to

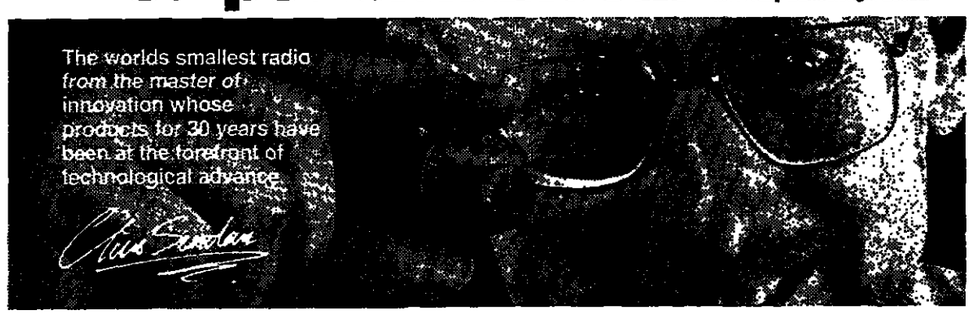
## Stairlift Rentals.

Call us now on freefone
0800 19 19 19
For a free no obligation quote.




- Next day installation available nationwide.
- Direct from the manufacturer.
- Rent or buy.
- New or reconditioned.

## "So small in size, yet so big on performance..." Miss Katy Barraclough, Leeds.




## The Astonishing X1 Button Radio

*Only the size of a 10p coin, it offers the full performance of a VHF radio* yet with its unique design fits discreetly in your ear.

**Available exclusively from Sinclair Research at only £9.50** + p&p




From the master of innovation, comés an astonishing break-through in electronic miniaturisation - the new X1 Button Radio. A receiver that fits snugly in your ear with state of the art circuitry that gives it a specification which will top radios many times its size. The result of years of research using original Sinclair technology the X1 Radio is unique, and in line with Sir Clive's wish to keep its price to under £10, it is only available direct from Sinclair Research. You cannot buy this radio in the high street or from any mail order catalogue.

"I am absolutely delighted, the sound is astonishing..." Mrs G. Lloyd - Kent

**Key features of this marvel of technology:**
- *Autoscan push button tuning.*
- FM Range (88 MHz - 108 MHz.)
- *Weighs only half an ounce.*
- Hands-free operation.
- Built in aerial.
- Unique sure grip ear design.
- Powered by a tiny lithium cell.
- One year guarantee.
- The size of a 10p coin.




Actual Size

**Buy 3 Button Radios and Save ££'s.**
The X1 Button Radio makes a great birthday or surprise gift for family and friends.

"Your radio is another stroke of genius..." Mr B. White - Bolton

Order your X1 today
Simply send Sinclair Research £10 and we will despatch your new X1 Button Radio (complete with battery) direct to you. If its *performance and sound quality does not* astonish you, simply return within 30 days for a full, no questions refund.

SINCLAIR RESEARCH
Vector Services Division, 13 Dennington Road, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 2RL.
CREDIT CARD HOLDERS TELEPHONE 01933 279 300

**SEND ONLY £10 TODAY**

TO...SINCLAIR RESEARCH LTD., VECTOR SERVICES DIVISION, 13 DENNINGTON ROAD, WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS NN8 2RL.

| Qty | Item | Price (inc 50p P&P) | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | X1 Button Radio | £10 | |
| 3 | X1 Button Radio | £25 | |

Please tick appropriate box
☐ I enclose cash or cheque/PO made payable to Sinclair Research Ltd. for £
☐ Or debit my Visa ☐ Access ☐
Card expiry date: Month _____ Year _____
Card Number
Name
Address
Postcode
Signature X

"Certainly the last word in miniaturisation and discretion..." Mr F. Wait - Lancashire

Tune in and listen
The X1 is totally hands free and has virtually no weight. You can run, dance *or pedal your bike* without fear of the X1 getting in the way. Its unique sure-grip ear design will ensure it fits snugly and comfortably in your ear at all times. Never again need you miss your favourite programme or FM sport broadcasts and updates. Ideal for all *locations, it can be discreetly used in* your car, on the train, bus or while you're at work, without the person next to you being aware.

You've never heard it so good
Powered by a tiny lithium cell which lasts for many hours, (replacement batteries readily available in shops) the

X1 uses push button autoscan touch tuning as found on expensive car radios. Simply push the button and it tunes automatically to the next station.

TIB

# See up to 35 miles with these high-powered binoculars




**Why are we giving these binoculars away?**
We have just secured 5,000 of these 600% high power lens binoculars for an incredibly low price. That is why *we are able to give them away at the price of only* £9.95. **But you must hurry, this offer is only available to the first 5,000 replies.**

**Quality Binoculars**
Do not misjudge the quality of these high power binoculars simply by the incredibly low price. Read the quality features and specifications listed below and you will see that these are a powerful, well designed pair of binoculars. Why pay £79.99 and more for other binoculars when you can try these for just £9.95

**600% Power Lens**
You won't believe your eyes when you take your first look through these binoculars, it's mind boggling! From a good vantage point, you can quite easily view lakes, mountains and nature's wonders. Distant people, birds and animals appear so close you feel you can almost touch them. You can even take them to your favourite sporting occasion. Bring the action from a football match, rugby, tennis or golf game close up – as if it was in your own garden.

**Our Guarantee**
Why not try these incredible binoculars for **THREE WHOLE MONTHS** and test everything we have said in this advert. If, for any reason, you are *not 100% satisfied, you can return them for* a full, no quibble refund.

BEFORE PAYING £79.99 FOR OTHER BINOCULARS

TRY THESE FOR ONLY £9.95 + p&p

**FREE BONUS GIFT**
Send your order now, within seven days of this announcement being placed, and you will also receive absolutely **FREE** a leather styled handy carrying case complete with wrist strap and a detachable neck strap that keeps your binoculars safe.

**QUALITY FEATURES & SPECIFICATIONS**



- 600% (6x) power magnification system
- Rugged shock resistant body
- Objectives: 35mm minimum range; 24ft maximum range potential approx. 35 miles
- Lightweight, modern and compact design
- Water resistant
- High impact, non-shatter lens
- Instant eye width regulator
- Optics: non-prismatic (objective)
- Focusing centre focus type
- Zippered leather style pouch
- Soft rubber eyecups for comfortable viewing
- Leather styled wrist strap
- Handy, detachable neck strap

**TRY THE BINOCULARS AT NO RISK**

SEND NOW TO: Carnell Ltd, Dept:BN18 Main Road, Alresford, Colchester, Essex CO7 8AP or telephone our 24 hour order line on 01206 825600

☐ Please send me _____ pair(s) of HIGH POWERED BINOCULARS for only £9.95 plus £3 postage and packaging each.
☐ I enclose my cheque for £_____ payable to Carnell Ltd.
☐ Please charge my (Visa/Master/Switch) card:

EXPIRY DATE ISSUE NO SIGNATURE
NAME
ADDRESS
POST CODE

24 HOUR ORDER LINE 01206 825600

Exclusively sold by mail order. We aim to deliver within 7 days but please allow up to 28 days for delivery.

GPU, telephone 0151-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, new accessories ... Office.

هكذا من الأصل



# Marching in for a saint



**Ruth Gledhill** finds standing room only at a Catholic church

The crumpled shirt and tie seemed incongruous on the cherubic, other-worldly figure who offered me a coffee after the service. It was as if, from within the uniform of the City of London, a Chaucerian figure was struggling to escape.

Brother Andrew turned out to be a would-be monk, a young man who had indeed forsaken the world of commerce, where a career with Eurostar beckoned, to follow a religious vocation with the community of St Francis de Sales. He will soon take his first vows and formally enter the novitiate. He and his vocation are being nurtured at the community's house in Hampton Hill.

Just round the corner was King Henry VIII's famous palace. This church could not have been more different. A vast, modern edifice with larger-than-life crucifix mounted on the blood-red altar wall, it seemed to offer a message that was frightening, hopeful and uncompromising all in one.

Ten minutes before the service, it was almost empty. It did not seem possible that there could be enough Catholics in the former county of Middlesex to fill it, never mind Hampton Hill. But with a minute to go, nearly every space was taken. At the subsequent 11am Mass, it would be standing room only. And at our service, the few spaces that remained at the start were taken when the children filed in from Sunday school.

"Do not be afraid," we sang in our first hymn, accompanied by the organ. The beautiful soprano of the woman cantor, in the gallery with the rest of the choir, rang clear above us, filling the church to its tip and beyond. Numbers in the Order of St Francis de Sales are increasing constantly, and four young men are about to join the order, possibly also at Hampton Hill. St Francis, the patron saint of journalists, was born a nobleman in 1567 in Savoy and wrote the prototype self-help book, *Introduction to the Devout Life*, which shows how even a lay person can live a saintly life. He used a printing press to engage in heated disputes with Protestant church leaders. The Protestants tried to assassinate him, but he won them over, and returned them to the fold.

The order was founded in 1838 by Father Pierre Mermier, and the early members dedicated themselves to rebuilding a church devastated by the French Revolution. The order came to England in 1867, and most of its priests work here in parishes, chaplaincies and spiritual direction. "In terms of Apostolate, the fundamental principle is to go where we are needed for whatever may be asked of us," said Brother Andrew.

**AT YOUR SERVICE**

★ *A five-star guide* ★

**PARISH PRIEST:** Fr Martin Griffin

**ARCHITECTURE:** Bleak, like the bare truth. ★★

**SERMON:** On new beginnings. ★★★★

**MUSIC:** Led by powerful choir. ★★★

**SPIRITUAL HIGH:** Saintliness. ★★★★★

**AFTER-SERVICE CARE:** Coffee, tea and biscuits. ★★★

● *Roman Catholic Church of St Francis de Sales, 16 Wellington Road, Hampton Hill, TW12 (0181-977 1415).*

● *Contributions are sought for* The Times Book of Saints, *to be published by Cassell. Please write to or telephone Ruth Gledhill at* The Times *before March 31 for further details.*

ANTHONY UPTON



Worshipper Edward Spappow and his son Edward

# Churches become upwardly mobile

Spires across Britain are being used as telephone masts

Church spires and towers, the traditional landmarks of the English countryside, have leapt to the cutting edge of communications technology. Built over centuries to house bells to summon communicants, spires are becoming unlikely symbols of the digital age as churches cash in on the growing demand from mobile phone companies for sites to erect aerial masts.

In what has been called "the great steeple chase", churches are scrambling to be connected to a widening national network of antennae. Even Ely Cathedral has one of the masts and other churches and chapels nationwide are joining in.

Hundreds of antennae must be put up nationwide in coming years to allow better reception for digital networks. Although the aerials can arouse objections from parishioners who fear they will be an eyesore, protests are quelled by cash benefits.

One Somerset church, All Saints in Closworth, has been saved from certain closure by putting up a mast. Others are planning restoration and maintenance programmes, based on money from letting their tower.

The Rev David Hunt, Vicar of Closworth, says his crumbling 13th-century hilltop church will receive £38,000 thanks to the deal with One 2 One, which applies for its licences under the name of Mercury Communications. The church approached the phone company after local people objected to proposals to erect a freestanding aerial nearby. Mobile phone companies, facing vigorous campaigns against antennae, favour churches and other structures where masts will be less obvious.

Robin Bryer, Closworth church council secretary and a consultant town planner who has been a vigorous opponent of freestanding masts, said: "The church was on the point of closing. One or two people in the village said we should not mix commerce with God.

"Some thought there would be this terrible thing on the tower, but there will only be three or four wands projecting three feet over the pinnacles. When we put the dummies up, it just looked as if we had rather grand pinnacles."

About 5 per cent of Cellnet transmitters are installed in church steeples. One 2 One has seven churches on-line already, and is negotiating with another seven. "If a church approaches us it is much easier," says Gill Smith of One 2 One, "but it is still difficult to get permission from the church authorities. It's the bureaucracy more than anything else. We have given All Saints Closworth ten years' money upfront. The antennae hardly show at all. They are pale grey and sit just inside the crenellations." The company puts 75 per cent of its masts on existing structures. "And churches are often the highest building in an area," she says.

Vodafone has ten church masts. "The amount we pay depends on the site," a spokesman says. "It is a confidential agreement."

The Rev Chris Edmondson, vicar of St Peter's, Shipley, West Yorkshire, was approached by Vodafone which wanted to improve the signal in the area. "We see it very much as a community facility. But now others are trying to climb on to the bandwagon. I keep getting calls from other churches asking how they should go about getting one. They are coming at it from the point of view of the extra revenue it generates."

In fact, the £3,000 a year is small compared to the £185,000 budget of St Peter's. One tenth of the Vodafone funds will be tithed, in line with Biblical principles, and the remainder will be spent on church maintenance.

Although the diocese held a rare consistory court to inquire into possible objections, the biggest concern was that people would use their mobile phones to contact chat lines.

"You can see the aerials if you look hard, but they are designed to blend in with the stonework," Mr Edmondson says. However, the average payment of £3,000 a year for a digital transmitter antenna on British churches is small beer compared to the rewards on offer in America. Some of the churches there make more than £27,000 a year by renting their steeples to three or more phone companies.

According to Jon Auerbach of *The Wall Street Journal*, the Wellesley congregational church in Massachusetts bargained with communication giants AT&T for £1,700 a month for a decade to allow transmission equipment to be installed in its nine-storey-high steeple. It also secured a promise to rebuild part of the steeple and a £4,000 annual "gift" to the church. One of the best attended Massachusetts church seminars ever was a recent event entitled "Is there cash in your steeple?"

Mr Auerbach reports that churches are sitting on potential goldmines. "Monthly rent is more reliable than the collection plate," he says.

The Cellnet company has antennae on a handful of church buildings, including at Ely Cathedral, and is assessing another six church sites. "We find that clergy and church councils are particularly welcoming to these masts," a spokesman says.

The Orange mobile phone company pays "hugely varying" fees for antennae on churches, but Orange now has antennae on about 20 churches of all denominations. In Pitsea, Essex, the company even bought the derelict church of St Mary's for £1 in order to find a suitable antenna site in the area, and has now restored the building.

RUTH GLEDHILL



CLIFFORD HARPER

# Church is the best place to be nonconformist

**Credo**



DOUG GAY

When my grandfather died, they found among his papers two tickets for the Nonconformist cemetery in Devizes. At the time he had been living with us in Scotland and so was buried in the small public cemetery beside the loch. I remember those tickets, in part because I sometimes idly wonder whether there is still a space reserved for him in some green Wiltshire field, but in the main because they were a clue to part of my own identity. If he was a Nonconformist, then so was I. It was a new angle on understanding the complications of my Plymouth Brethren upbringing. I wasn't too clear what the word meant, but I liked the sound of it even then.

My next act of nonconformity was to join the established church. There was a kind of desperation to swim out of the sectarian backwater into the broad mainstream of the church. But the memory of that word and those tickets never left me, even when I was training for the ministry in the Church of Scotland. What is it they say, "you can take the boy out of the ghetto, but you can't take the ghetto out of the boy".

Moving to London meant exchanging the kirk for the United Reformed Church and the strangely satisfying realisation that I was getting my ecclesiastical passport back as I crossed the border. I was a nonconformist again. More than that, I was a dissenter, a member of one of the Free Churches. Somehow the words sounded better than ever — nonconformist, dissenting, free. You have to admire the labels that dissident Welsh and English Protestants managed to attract, even though some were clearly seen as terms of abuse by their opponents. They are words with attitude, words with a heady scent of revolution about them. They evoke a sense of conviction Christianity which will not be silenced or corralled or coerced by the powers that be. I have this secret fantasy of inviting some local teenagers to graffiti them all over the Round Chapel here in Hackney, to the horror of English Heritage, which helped pay for our refurbishment.

Apart from all of their more technical senses in describing church-state relations past and present, these three words offer a provocative summary of the values of Jesus Christ to our culture, which has come to see most things Christian as establishment, conservative and complacent. They advertise an alternative role for churches within their communities, as agents of change and disturbers of the peace.

Within this alternative, churches refuse to conform to the privatised role they have been allowed within contemporary society and insist that their mission relates to both body and soul, the political as well as the spiritual. They actively dissent from the possessive individualism of our time and become living signs of community, where real economic sharing takes place. Their freedom to do this is seen in their appetite for celebration, their enthusiasm for the arts and their openness to welcome and enjoy a rich cultural diversity.

There is no denying it is a dream, but there are glimpses of it being realised, not least in inner-city churches. I'm still in church after all, because it seems to me to be the best location to be a nonconformist in today's world. Second only to my grandpa's that is, who had a ticket for nonconformist heaven and is busy teaching Moody and Sankey choruses to high Anglicans.

● *Doug Gay is minister of Clapton Park United Reform Churches, east London.*

EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES

Save £105 on 58-piece canteen of cutlery



Only £79.99 inc p&p

Today *The Times* and Viners offer readers the chance to buy this superb 58-piece cutlery set, for only £79.99, saving more than £100 on the rrrp of £184.99. Presented in a lined, Queen Anne style, mahogany-finish cabinet, the canteen includes eight place settings of table knife, table fork, dessert knife, dessert fork, dessert spoon, teaspoon, soup spoon and two serving spoons.

The Genoa design is part of Viners exclusive tabletop cutlery collection. It is ideal for everyday use and will add a touch of elegance to any dining table. Made from stainless steel, the cutlery set comes with a 25-year guarantee.

To order, simply fill in the coupon and post today, or call our 24-hour order line on 0990 134 459. Free delivery on all orders.

THE TIMES VINERS CUTLERY SET OFFER

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss .....

Address .....

Postcode .....

I enclose a cheque/PO(s) made payable to: The Times Cutlery Set Offer FT882

Value ..... Card No .....

Please write name and address on back of all cheques

| ITEM | QTY | £/ITEM | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|
| GENOA CUTLERY SET | | £79.99 | |

Free postage and packaging on all orders.

Or debit my MasterCard/Visa card no.

Print Name ..... Exp. Date .....

Signature ..... Date .....

Send coupon and remittance to: The Times Cutlery Offer FT882, PO Box 345, Falmouth, TR11 2YX

Offer available in UK only. Allow 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. If dissatisfied, please return return goods within seven days of receipt for a full refund. No claims for loss in transit can be made after 60 days. Offer is subject to availability.

Please tick box if you do not wish to receive further details from The Times or companies approved by us. ☐

24-HOUR CREDIT CARD ORDERLINE: 0990 134 459

CHANGING TIMES

# Church services for tomorrow

Second Sunday of Epiphany

**ARMAGH CATHEDRAL:** 10 HC; 11 Euch, Shepherd in D; 3.15 Ch E.

**BANGOR CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 Boreol Weddi; 11 Ch Euch, Ireland in C; 3.15 Ch E; 5 Cymun Bendigaid.

**BELFAST CATHEDRAL:** 10 HC; 11 Ch C, Collegium Regale (Howells); 3.30 E.

**BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL:** 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Missa O Quam Gloriosum (Victoria); 4 Ch E.

**BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.15 Ch M; 10.30 Euch, Ireland in C; 4 Ch E.

**BRECON CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 11 Rorke's Drift Commemorative Service; 3.30 E, Stanford in C; 6.30 Christ College Founder's Day Service.

**BRISTOL CATHEDRAL:** 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Ch Euch, Bristol Mass (Latham); 3.30 Ch E, Blair in B minor, Canon J Simpson.

**CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis in D (Mozart); 3.15 E; 6.30 Sermon & Compline.

**CARLISLE CATHEDRAL:** 10.30 S Euch, Ireland in C; 3 E, Ireland in F.

**CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL:** 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 S Euch, Darke in E; 6 Ch E, Canon J Howden.

**CHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 7.45 L; 8 HC; 10 Euch; 11.30 M; 3.30 E; 6.30 ES.

**CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 M; 11 S Euch; 3.30 E, Magdalen Service (Leighton); 6.30 Unity Service.

**CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,** Dublin: 11 S Euch, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn); 3.30 Girl's Brigade Service.

**CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,** Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 S Euch, Stravinsky Mass; 6 E, Stanford in B flat.

**COVENTRY CATHEDRAL:** 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch, Ireland in C, Canon C Lamb; 5 Ch E, St Paul's Service (Howells).

**DERBY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.45 S Euch, Canon T Chesterman; 6 Ch E, Stainer in B flat.

**DURHAM CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 M, Stanford in B flat; 11.15 HC, Canon D Brown; 3.30 E, Purcell in G minor.

**ELY CATHEDRAL:** 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass in G minor (Vaughan Williams), Canon J Inge; 3.45 E.

**EXETER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Jackson in G; 11.15 M; 3 E; 6.30 ES.

**GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.15 Euch, Spatzenmesse (Mozart); 12.15 HC; 3 Epiphany Carol Service.

**GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Gabrieli); 11.30 M; 6.30 E, St John's Service (Tippett).

**HEREFORD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 Euch; 11.30 M, Darke in F; 3.30 E.

**LEICESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 M; 10.30 Euch, Sumsion in F; 4 Ch E.

**LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Leighton); 3.30 E.

**LINCOLN CATHEDRAL:** 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch; 11.15 M, Boyce in C; 12.30 HC; 3.45 E, Fourth Service (Batten).

**LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Bishop of Warrington: 3 Ch E; 4 HC.

**LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL:** 7.30 M & L; 8, 9 Euch; 11 S Euch, Stanford in C; 12.15 Euch; 3.30 Christian Unity Service; 6.30 E.

**NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL:** 7.30 M; 8 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Collegium Regale (Howells); 6 Ch E, Stanford in C.

**NEWPORT CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch; 6.30 E, Brewer in D.

**NORWICH CATHEDRAL:** 7.30 MP; 8, 9.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Messe Solonnelle (Langlais); 3.30 E; 6.30 Service of Healing.

**PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL:** 9.30 M; 10.30 Euch, Ireland in C; 3.30 E.

**PORTSMOUTH CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.30 C; 11 S Euch, Darke in E; 6 E, Murrill in E, Canon P Hancock.

**ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 M; 10.30 S Euch, Ireland in C, Fr W McGreal; 3.15 E, First Service (Ward).

**SALISBURY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 Euch; 11.30 M; 3 E, Jackson in G; 6 Songs of Praise for Christian Unity.

**SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch: Canon T Page; 6.30 Epiphany Procession.

**SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL:** 9 Euch; 11 Ch Euch; 3 E, Walmisley in D minor.

**SOUTHWELL MINSTER:** 7.45 L; 8 HC; 9.30 C; 11 M, Walton in D; 3.15 E.

**TRURO CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart); 6 E.

**WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.15 C; 11 Sol Euch, Missa Brevis (Mozart); 4 E.

**WELLS CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd); 11.30 M; 3 E, Second Service (Gibbons).

**WESTMINSTER ABBEY:** 8 HC; 10 M; 11.15 Euch, Missa Brevis (Harvey); 3 E; 5.45 Organ Recital: Martin Neary; 6.30 ES.

**WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL:** 7, 8, 9 Mass; 10.30 Sol Mass, O Magnum Mysterium (Victoria); 12 Mass 2.45 Organ Recital; 3.30 Sol V & B; 5.30, 7 Mass.

**WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 10 M; 11.15 S Euch; 3.30 E, Jackson in G, Canon P Morgan; 6 Ecumenical Service.

**YORK MINSTER:** 8, 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch, Jackson in G, Canon P Ferguson; 11.30 M; 4 E, Burton in G minor.

**ST ALBAN'S CATHEDRAL,** Hertfordshire: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11 M; 12.15 HC; 6.30 E, Bairstow in G, Canon Ritson.

**ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL,** Denbighshire: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch; 3.30 Ch E.

**ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL,** Pembs: 8 HC; 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid; 11.15 Ch M, Noble in B minor; 6 Ch E.

**ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Harris in F; 11.30 Ch M; 3.30 Ch E, Brewer in D.

**ST FIN BARRE'S CATHEDRAL,** Cork: 8 Euch; 11.15 Ch Euch, Noble in B minor; 7 Ch E, Fourth Service (Batten).

**ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL,** Southwark: 8, 10 LM; 11.30 Sol Mass, Sancti Joannis de Deo (Haydn); 6 LM.

**ST GILES' CATHEDRAL,** Edinburgh: 8, 10 HC; 11.30 MS, Gloria in Excelsis (Weelkes); 6 The Kevock Choir; 8 ES.

**ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL,** Old Aberdeen: 11 MS; 6 ES, Rev R Frazer.

**ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL,** Dublin: 8.30 Euch; 11.15 S Euch, Sumsion in F; 3.15 Ch E, Rev P R Campion.

**ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC; 8.45 M; 11 S Euch, Missa Sancti Pauli (Vann); 3.15 E, Gray in F minor, Rev Dr L Griffiths.

**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL,** SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy. Kievan and traditional polyphony, Met Anthony.

**ALL SAINTS,** W1: 8 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Rev I Davies; 5.15 LM; 6 E & B.

**ALL SOULS,** W1: 8 C; 9.30, 11.30 C; 6.30 EP, Rev J Cook.

**THE ASSUMPTION,** W1: 11 MS, Missa Simile est Regnum (Victoria).

**CHELSEA OLD CHURCH,** SW3: 8 HC; 10 Children's Service; 11 M; 12.15 HC; 6 E.

**CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,** WC2: 11.15 MS; 6.30 ES.

**FARM STREET,** W1: 8, 9.30 LM; 11 HM; 12.30 LM; 4.15 Mass; 6.15 LM.

**HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON,** SW7: 9 HC; 11 MS, Bishop of Stepney; 5, 7.30 Informal Service, Rev N Gumbel.

**HOLY TRINITY,** SW1: 8.45 Euch; 11 S Euch, Harris in F, Bishop M Marshall.

**THE ORATORY,** SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, Missa Choralis (Liszt); 12.30 Mass; 3.30 V & B; 4.30, 7 Mass.

**ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH** W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

**WESLEY'S CHAPEL,** EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev L McMurray.

**WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL** (Methodist): 11 HC, Rev Dr P Graves; 6.30 EP, Canon D Gray.

**ST ANNE AND ST AGNES** (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Ch Euch; 7 Bach Vespers, Violin Concerto in E.

**ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT,** EC1: 9 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Missa Papa Marcelli (Palestrina); 6.30 E.

**ST BRIDE'S,** EC4: 11 Ch Euch, Purcell in C; 6.30 Ch E, Canon J Oates.

**ST CLEMENT DANES,** WC2: 11 Ch M, Short Service (Weelkes), Rev D Mackenzie.

**ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND,** SW1: 11 Confirmations, Rev J H McIndoe; 6.30 Rev T Fletcher.

**ST ETHELDREDA'S,** EC1: 11 S Mass, Missa Salve Intemerata Virgo (Tallis).

**ST GEORGE'S,** W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Darke in E, The Rector.

**ST JAMES'S,** W1: 9.15 HC; 11 S Euch; 5.45 EP.

**ST JOHN'S,** E15: 11 HC, Rev D Richards, Prelude and Fugue in C (Bach); 6.30 EP.

**ST LUKE'S,** SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch; 12.15 HC; 6.30 E, Rev C Kevill-Davies.

**ST MARK'S,** NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 Family C; 11 S Euch, Missa ad Praesepe (Malcolm).

**ST MARGARET'S,** SW1: 11 S Euch, Cantus Missae, (Rheinberger), Rev A Cairns.

**ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,** WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch; 11.30 Visitors Service; 2.45 Chinese Service; 5 Ch E; 6.30 ES.

**ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH,** W8: 8 HC; 9.30 Euch; 11.15 Ch M, Canon E James; 12.30 HC; 6.30 E, Fr F Gelli.

**ST MARY'S,** SW1: 9, 10, LM; 11 HM; 6 Sol E & B; 7 LM.

**ST MARYLEBONE,** NW1: 8 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Congregational Mass (How).

**ST PAUL'S,** SW1: 8, 9 HC; 11 Sol Euch, Missa super osculetur me (Lassus).

**ST PETER'S,** SW1: 8.15 HC; 10 Family Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Filsell).

**CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA,** HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 Epiphany Carol Service.

**CHAPEL ROYAL,** St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, A spotless rose (Howells), Canon D G Palmer.

**CHAPEL ROYAL,** Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Britten in C; 3.30 E.

**GROSVENOR CHAPEL,** South Audley St, W1: 11 S Euch, Missa Brevis (Walton).

**QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY,** WC2: 11 S Euch, Rev R Harrison.

**QUEEN'S FREE CHAPEL OF ST GEORGE,** Windsor Castle: 8.30 HC; 10.45 M; 11.45 S Euch, Missa Bell' Amfitrit' Altera (Lassus); 5.15 E.

**THE TEMPLE CHURCH,** EC4: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP.

**GUARDS CHAPEL,** Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Rev P R Bosher, Band of the Grenadier Guards; 12 HC.

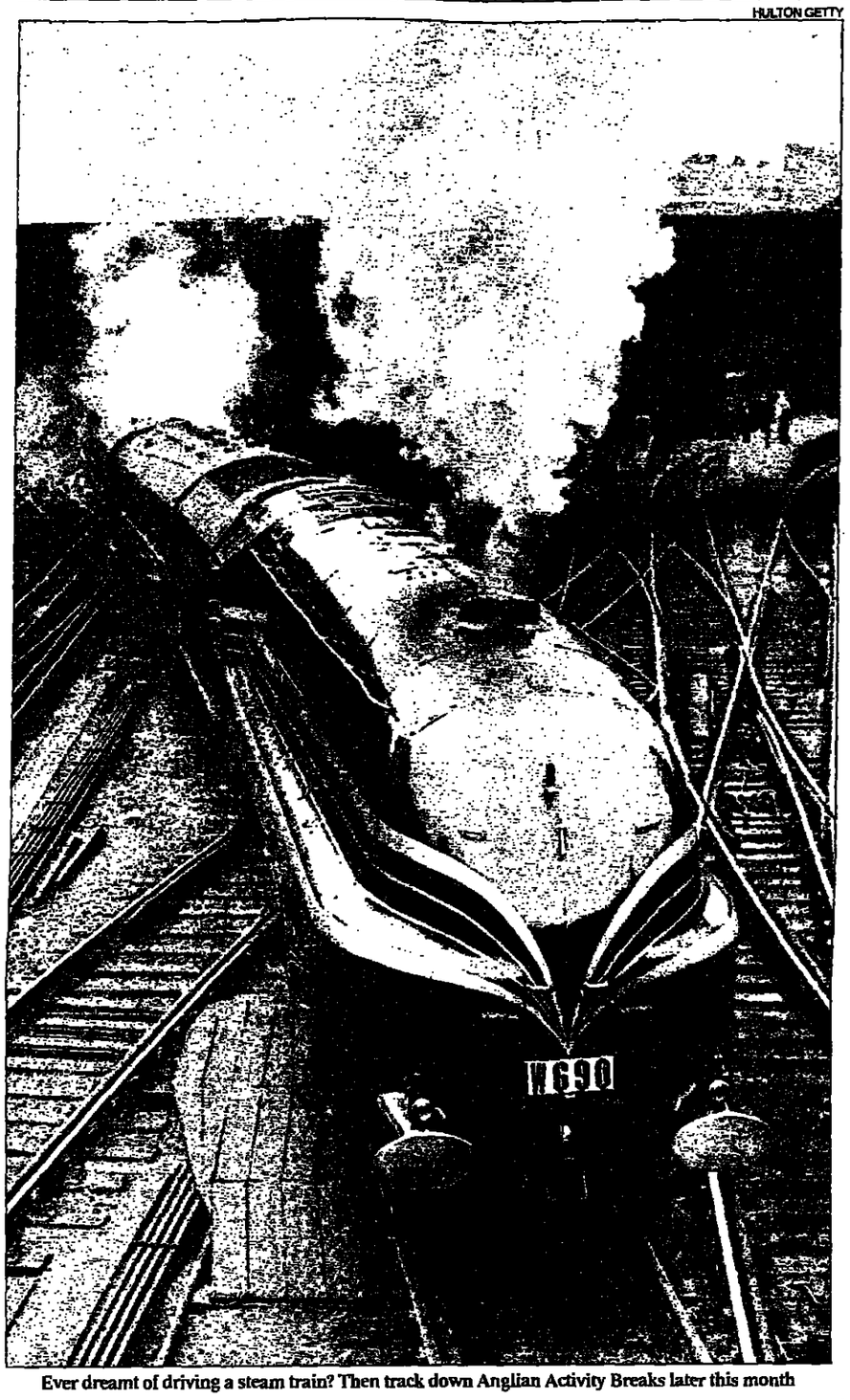
**ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL,** SE10: 11 S Euch, Stanford in C & F.

● *Compiled by Deborah King.*

WEEKEND COURSES AND ACTIVITIES

# Full steam ahead

HULTON GETTY



Ever dreamt of driving a steam train? Then track down Anglian Activity Breaks later this month

## JANUARY 23-25

**Health and fitness weekend.** Swimming pool, spa, squash and racketball, sauna and steam room; windsurfing and dinghy sailing. *This weekend at Nutfield Priory Health and Leisure Club, near Redhill, Surrey (01737 822066).* Price £60 per night, including full *use of facilities.*

**Whitewater rafting, quad biking and abseiling** on the River Dee at Llangollen. **Drawing and painting** at the Allt yr Ynys Hotel, Walterstone, Herefordshire. Both with Acorn Activities (01432 830083). Prices £129 for the activities and £184 for the drawing and painting, inclusive.

**Winter walking in the Cotswolds.** From the Swan Hotel in Bibury, renowned for its trout stream, *medieval cottages and rural life* museum. With Compass Holidays of Cheltenham (01242 250642). Three days of walking costs £165.

**All that jazz: An introduction to Excel for Windows.** Both at the University of Oxford, Rewley House, Oxford (01865 270360). From £94, inclusive.

**Choosing wines, why pay more?; Walking on the Sussex Downs.** This weekend at the Earnley Concourse, Chichester, Sussex (01243 670392). Prices £142 residential, £98 non-residential.

**An introduction to beadwork jewellery; Flower painting the easy way; Celtic appliqué and stained-glass patchwork.** Introductory courses this weekend at *Knuston Hall, Irchester, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire (01933 312104).* Price, including full-board accommodation, £88.

**An introduction to counselling skills; Reflex therapy; China painting.** This weekend at the *Lancashire College, Chorley, Lancashire (01257 260909).* Price £96 *per course, inclusive.*

**A pewter workshop; 20th-century English song; An introduction to astronomy; Atmospheric watercolours.** This weekend at the Old Rectory, Fittleworth, West Sussex (01798 865306). Prices £114 residential, £90 non-residential.

**Collecting teddy bears; History of the visual arts; Astronomy; The complete Internet.** This weekend at Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire (01494 890295). From £159 residential, £69 non-residential.

**The music of Mahler; Discovery of colour in 20th-century art; Bookbinding and repairs.** Three courses at the Wansfell College, Theydon Bois, Essex (01992 813027). Prices, inclusive of full-board accommodation, from £86.



PETER TREVNOR

Bob and Pauline Walker of Devon found this £100,000 painting in their attic. Learn more at the Old Rectory in West Sussex

## JAN 30-FEB 1

**Taxidermy; Drive a steam train: Try land yachting; Drive a single-seat racing car.** Courses and activities with Anglian Activity Breaks of Norwich (01603 700770). *From £70-£120 per day. B&B* accommodation from £25.

***Jazz appreciation: Wine appreciation.*** Both this weekend at Higham Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria (017687 76276). Prices from £112, inclusive.

**Bridge for improvers; Woodcarving for beginners and advanced; Reiki healing; Recorded music, from cylinders to CDs.** This weekend at Knuston Hall Residential College, Irchester, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire (01933 312104). Price £89 per course, inclusive.

**Towards the millennium; Bridge for absolute beginners; Environment and sustainability (with the Worldwide Fund for Nature).** At *Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire (01494 890295).* Prices residential £159 inclusive, or from £69 non-residential including Saturday lunch.

**Treasures in the attic; Exploring mixed media and pastels; Chinese brush painting; Wine and Spirit Trust course.** All this weekend at the Old Rectory, Fittleworth, West Sussex (01798 865306). From £114 residential, £90 non-residential.

***F. Scott Fitzgerald and the jazz age; Crusaders and crusading, 1095-1250; The influence of Rome; Reading Classical Greek.*** This weekend at the University of Cambridge, Madingley Hall (01954 210636). Price £120 per course.

**An introduction to Persian carpets; Renaissance music weekend; Painting miniatures and silhouettes; Glass engraving for beginners.** At West Dean College, Chichester, West Sussex (01243 811301). Prices from £150 residential, £97 non-residential.

**Better baking; Tea-time favourites; Chess for beginners, level 2; Stained glass; Watercolour painting for beginners.** This weekend at the Earnley Concourse, Chichester, West Sussex (01243 670392). Prices £142 residential, £98 non-residential.

## FEBRUARY 6-8

**Introduction to the history of furniture; Writers' workshop; Computer skills.** Three varied *courses this weekend at the Hill* Residential College, Abergavenny, Gwent (01495 333777). Price, including full-board accommodation and tuition, £88.

**Walking weekends on Exmoor, Somerset or from the village of Hope in the Peak District.** With *Countrywide Holidays (0161-446 2226).* From £103, for full-board *accommodation* and guided walks.

**Astronomy: an introduction to the night sky; Italian; Homer's poems and the Trojan War; Withy weaving.** All this weekend at the Knuston Hall Residential College, Irchester, Northants (01933 312104). Price £89 per course, inclusive.

**Cycling weekends in Hardy's Wessex or along the King Alfred trail.** With Somerset Cycling and West Wessex Saddles of Broadwindsor, Dorset (01308 8676860). Daily distances from 20 miles, accommodation in hotels, pubs or bed and breakfasts. Prices for two nights, £95.

**French through literature: Marcel Proust; Portrait drawing and painting; Franz Liszt, his life and music; Art and architecture of the 18th-century courts, Dresden and Munich.** This weekend at Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, Bucks (01494 890295). Price from £159 residential, £69 non-residential.

**Stock market and investing for beginners; The history of Crete; Silk painting; The art of drawing.** This weekend at the Old Rectory, Fittleworth, Sussex (01798 865306). *Prices from* £114 residential, £90 non-residential.

**Oliver Cromwell and the English revolution; The Irish literary renaissance, 1885-1916.** At the University of Cambridge, Madingley Hall (01954 210636). Price £120 per course.

**The Amish people, their life and quilts; Intermediate Spanish; Glass engraving.** *All this weekend at the Wansfell College, Theydon Bois, Essex (01992 813027).* Price £85.

**Up and coming wines of the New World; Wines from seven countries.** At the Old Vicarage Hotel, Worfield, Bridgenorth, Shropshire (01746 716497). Weekend rates £70-£107, wines and dinner £47.50.

**Living the Seneca way — native American wisdom; Drawing and painting with John Flemons.** Both this weekend at Wensum College, Norwich (01603 6660210). Price £84 per course.

**Life drawing; Stained glass; Bowl turning; Hand-knitting; Decorative paint techniques for interiors.** At the West Dean College, Chichester, Sussex (01243 811301). Prices from £150 residential, £97 non-residential.

ROBIN NEILLANDS

TO ADVERTISE CALL:
0171 481 1989 (TRADE)

TRAVEL

0171 481 4000 (PRIVATE)
FAX: 0171 481 9313

CHECK-IN

**Because we think the world of you ...**

Unequivocal protection against airline insolvency - CAA approved

current best buys on the world's finest airlines

| includes all pre-paid taxes | one way from | return from | | one way from | return from | | one way from | return from |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SYDNEY | £300 | £535* | NEW YORK | £155 | £171 | MEXICO CITY | £281 | £331 |
| PERTH | £356 | £645 | BOSTON | £155 | £171 | INDIA | £209 | £350 |
| CAIRNS | £380 | £690 | CHICAGO | £193 | £226 | JO'BURG | £163 | £381 |
| AUCKLAND | £376 | £619 | FLORIDA | £135 | £222 | CAPE TOWN | £163 | £277 |
| BANGKOK | £251 | £394 | LOS ANGELES | £154 | £229 | HARARE | £331 | £515 |
| HONG KONG | £251 | £349 | SAN FRANCISCO | £164 | £229 | NAIROBI | £218 | £297 |
| SINGAPORE | £256 | £379 | DENVER | £246 | £274 | DUBAI | £206 | £258 |
| BALI | £323 | £438 | TORONTO | £199 | £231 | CARIBBEAN | £207 | £297 |
| BEIJING | £213 | £299 | VANCOUVER | £297 | £313 | GENEVA | £99 | £137 |
| TOKYO | £302 | £469 | LAS VEGAS | £189 | £262 | AROUND THE WORLD | | £827 |

*Per person based on 2 people travelling

plus discounted quality accommodation per room per night from

AUSTRALIA £36 • USA £29 • AFRICA £31 • PACIFIC £40 • ASIA £27

USA CAR HIRE FROM £20 PER DAY • CALL NOW FOR OUR TAILORMADE WORLDWIDE AND NORTH AMERICA BROCHURES

TRAILFINDERS
THE TRAVEL EXPERTS

AIR NEW ZEALAND TO AUCKLAND OR SYDNEY
FROM £619 RETURN
PLUS AUS50 WORTH OF TRAVEL VOUCHERS TO SPEND IN AUSTRALIA

HOTELS • CAR HIRE • TRAVEL INSURANCE • TOURS • CRUISES • WORLDWIDE TAILORMADE

worldwide attention to detail

For the real lowdown on worldwide travel, Trailfinders is your one stop travel shop.
Trailfinders offers more low cost flights to more destinations than anyone. Experts in airfares since 1970, we can tailor-make your very own package with up to 65% discount on hotels and car hire worldwide.

FOR YOUR FREE COPY OF THE TRAILFINDER MAGAZINE CALL 0171-938 3366 ANYTIME

42-50 Earls Court Road • LONDON W8 6FT
Long Haul Travel: 0171-938 3366
194 Kensington High Street • LONDON W8 7RG
Long Haul Travel: 0171-938 3939
First & Business Class: 0171-938 3444
215 Kensington High Street • LONDON W8 6BD
Transatlantic & European: 0171-937 5400
22-24 The Priory Queensway • BIRMINGHAM B4 6BS
Worldwide Travel: 0121-236 1234
48 Corn Street • BRISTOL BS1 1HQ
Worldwide Travel: 0117-929 9000
254-284 Sauchiehall Street • GLASGOW G2 3EH
Worldwide Travel: 0141-353 2224
58 Deansgate • MANCHESTER M3 2FF
Worldwide Travel: 0161-839 6969
First & Business Class: 0161-839 3434

ATOL 1498 IATA ABTA 68781

All our travel centres are open Mon-Fri from 9-7pm • Sat 9-5pm • Sun 10-6pm

Trailfinders does not impose charges on credit cards

... people think the world of us!

Australia New Zealand
AUSTRALIA FARES FROM £606 RETURN
NEW ZEALAND FARES FROM £667 RETURN
• Car & campervan hire, air, rail & coach passes.
• Accommodation from budget to luxury.
01420-88724 or 0171-287 5556

Southern Africa
•South Africa •Botswana •Namibia •Zimbabwe
SOUTH AFRICA FARES FROM £413 RETURN
• New adventure & tours for all ages, fabulous safaris, game viewing.
• Rail/Coach tours, Self-drive
• Luxury "Stays of Distinction"
01420-80828 or 0171-287 5535

Far East
• HONG KONG • THAILAND • BALI • MALAYSIA • BANGKOK • SINGAPORE • INDIA •
FAR EAST FARES FROM £380 RETURN
THAILAND FROM £463pp
We are tailormade specialists and can arrange flights, accommodation and tours.
01420-80828 or 0171-287 5558

OPEN 7 DAYS 12 High Street, Alton, Hants, GU34 1BN Or 52 Regent Street, London, W1R 6DX
FAX: 01420-82133 or 0171-287 4522
All fares subject to availability. Restrictions apply, ask for details. Air fares include pre-paid taxes, locally paid taxes may apply

WHY WE'RE THE BEST
TRAVELLING PLAN: A bespoke range of added benefits to make your journey easier
ACCOMMODATION: All the rooms from budget to the most luxurious
TOUR CHOICE: Festivals, tour and sightseeing options to your journey needs
SPECIALIST CONSULTANTS: Trained counsellors to meet your exact needs
Car and completed tour, check tours and hotels

TRAVELBAG
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED QANTAS AGENT

benz
NEW YORK £190
BANGKOK £350
AUSTRIA £70 HONG KONG £340
CARIBBEAN £260 JO'BURG £280
COLOMBO £280 LANGELS £270
DELHI £320 MADRID £110
DUBAI £280 MANILA £430
FRANKFURT £110 MOSCOW £185
GOA £270 SYDNEY £630
LOW SEASON FARES. EXCLUSIVE OF TAX.
0171 462 0011
ABTA X2223 ATOL 2666

TRAVEL ZONE LTD
AUS/NZ R.CARIB SPAIN R £79
FAR EAST £340 PORTUGAL £99
INDIA £250 ITALY £99
AFRICA £340 GREECE £99
S. AFRICA £365 E.EUROPE £149
CANADA/USA £199 GERMANY £99
CARIBBEAN £260 FRANCE £99
S.AMERICA £340 TURKEY £129
SPECIAL RETURN FARES FROM REGIONAL AIRPORTS
LOW COST HOTELS • APARTMENTS • VILLAS
0171 287 3997
ATOL 2523 ABTA V3613

PLATINUM TRAVEL
ADVENTURE TRAVEL AND FLIGHTS AT AFFORDABLE PRICES
(*excl taxes) — CURRENT BEST BUYS — NEW FOR 1998

| | O/W | RTN | | O/W | RTN | | O/W | RTN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SYDNEY | £359 | £579 | SINGAPORE | £240 | £360 | HARARE | £279 | £420 |
| CAIRNS | £342 | £567 | HONG KONG | £290 | £329 | JO'BURG | £220 | £345 |
| PERTH | £340 | £595 | JAKARTA | £245 | £387 | CAPE TOWN | £275 | £455 |
| AUCKLAND | £599 | £650 | BALI | £260 | £415 | MEXICO CITY | £260 | £289 |
| DELHI | £215 | £315 | SAIGON | £270 | £390 | RIO DE JANEIRO | £289 | £355 |
| BOMBAY | £212 | £315 | CAIRO | £159 | £210 | TORONTO | £167 | £209 |
| MADRAS | £266 | £390 | BEIJING | £270 | £281 | NEW YORK | £129 | £135 |
| KATHMANDU | £240 | £415 | DUBAI | £189 | £279 | BOSTON | £129 | £135 |
| COLOMBO | £345 | £577 | TOKYO | £250 | £440 | LOS ANGELES | £134 | £194 |
| BANGKOK | £220 | £345 | NAIROBI | £219 | £279 | GRAND CAYMAN | £365 | |

AUSTRALIA RTN £499
SCHEDULED SERVICES BASED ON 2 PEOPLE TRAVELLING TOGETHER, DEPARTING ANY TIME BETWEEN 16 APR 98-30 JUN 98

- AROUND THE WORLD -
UK - BOMBAY overland to MADRAS - SINGAPORE - CAIRNS overland to MELBOURNE - AUCKLAND - USA - LONDON £775
Whether you are holidaying or visiting home, would like to go direct or with a stopover, at Platinum Travel we offer more flights via more destinations, at all the right prices to suit your requirements.

LONG HAUL 0171 937 5122 TRANSATLANTIC & EUROPE 0171 937 2654
52 EARLS COURT ROAD, KENSINGTON, LONDON W8 6EJ
OPEN: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM-6PM, SATURDAY 10AM-2PM
IATA

AUSTRALIA WITH QANTAS FROM £635
QANTAS
Perth £635
Melbourne £702
Brisbane £702
Sydney £704
Cairns £710

Return prices including pre-paid airport taxes from:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sydney | £517* | Bali | £454 |
| Brisbane | £517* | New York | £189 |
| Auckland | £675 | Boston | £189 |
| Singapore | £379 | Miami | £244 |
| Bangkok | £385 | Chicago | £228 |
| Hong Kong | £373 | Denver | £279 |
| Bombay | £353 | Los Angeles | £258 |
| Johannesburg | £383 | Toronto | £238 |
| Vancouver | £322 | Mexico | £326 |

*per person based on 2 people travelling together
Flights are subject to availability. Prepaid airport tax is included. Charges have been valid for departures 16 Apr - 30 June 98. To ensure quality service calls are recorded. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd 46 The Mall W5 2PH ABTA 1020

FLIGHTS DIRECT
FIRST CHILD GOES FREE TO ORLANDO
Thomas Cook
Lines open 9am-9pm Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm Sat-Sun. Quote FTIDIST
0870 75 00 132
WE GO FURTHER TO FIND THE RIGHT FLIGHT

★ USA and CANADA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ★New York | from £204 | ★Toronto | from £174 |
| ★Boston | from £210 | ★Montreal | from £276 |
| ★Baltimore | from £221 | ★Vancouver | from £294 |
| ★Washington | from £221 | | |
| ★Philadelphia | from £221 | | |
| ★Miami | from £241 | | |
| ★Orlando | from £249 | | |
| ★Chicago | from £256 | | |
| ★Dallas | from £256 | | |
| ★Seattle | from £271 | | |
| ★Los Angeles | from £276 | | |
| ★San Francisco | from £294 | | |

★★ SPECIAL OFFER ★★
TORONTO £174
Depart Gatwick or Manchester, return 16 to 19 March
eclipse
0990 329 326
Lines Open: Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm.
All fares are low season return flights, subject to availability and include all payable taxes. West Chase Holidays & Flights Ltd. ABTA V1549 ATOL 220 1406

Direct Travel Insurance
for TOP QUALITY COVER AND VALUE
WORLDWIDE ANNUAL MULTI-TRIP UNLIMITED SKI - UNLIMITED TRIPS COMPREHENSIVE COVER £95 per FAMILY
UK'S BEST SINGLE TRIP RATES from
EUR £6.00
USA £14.25
SKI £10.50
Travellers Insurance Association Limited A Commercial Union Co.
Consumer Awards of the Year 1997
01903 812345 For instant cover or quotation 9am - 8pm Seven days a week

Travel Insurance
Preferential Annual Price... from only £40
Preferential multi-trip or single journey policies
NO PENALTY FOR OVER 65's
Preferential 01702 42 33 93

Travel Insurance
Comprehensive Policies From £1 per day No age limit, any destination
SUN SELECTION Open Mon-Sat 9am-9pm Open Sunday 2pm-6pm
01582 476026

PICK 'n' PACK

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Hong Kong | 5nts hol | £390 |
| Thailand | 8nts hol | £499 |
| New York | flt rtn | £165 |
| Jo'burg | flt rtn | £365 |
| Peking | flt rtn | £268 |
| Singapore | flt rtn | £340 |

0171 437 8868
Bonded Agents for Atol holders • IATA • TOL 8655

COSTCUTTERS on flights & hols to Europe, USA & most destinations. Diplomat Travel Services Ltd. 0171-730 2201. ABTA 28703 IATA/ATOL 1285.

FLIGHT CENTRE ATOL 3212
WORLDWIDE DISCOUNT FLIGHTS
ACCESS VISA WELCOME DISCOUNTED INSURANCE
0181 669 8607

NEED A HOLIDAY CAR?
Call Holiday Cars Direct
01892 833366

FARESAVERS ABTA 92408

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MALAGA | £59 | GREECE | fr £79 |
| ALICANTE | £59 | TURKEY | £109 |
| FARO | £55 | ISRAEL | £109 |
| TENERIFE | £69 | MALTA | £79 |
| LAS PALMAS | £69 | CYPRUS | £119 |
| LANZAROTE | £69 | ITALY | £79 |
| BALEARICS | £59 | CARIBBEAN | £209 |

ALL EUROPEAN WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS
ALSO CAR HIRE ACCOMMODATION
01476 592095

JETLINE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| SPAIN | fr £59 | USA | fr £149 |
| PORTUGAL | 79 | CARIBBEAN | 155 |
| CANARIES | 89 | S. AFRICA | 235 |
| ISRAEL | 109 | CANADA | 149 |
| GREECE | 99 | INDIA | 299 |
| CYPRUS | 99 | FAR EAST | 319 |
| SKI FLIGHTS | 79 | AUSTRALIA | 395 |

SPECIALS
0171 360 1111

AIRLINK Worldwide
Discount fares to all destinations
Prices from
SPAIN 79 CANADA 166
CANARIES 89 SINGAPORE 199
PORTUGAL 89 BANGKOK 319
INDIA 299 BARBADOS 399
N.Y. CARIBBEAN 249 AUSTRALIA 499
CARIBBEAN 199 PLEASURE BREAKS
CYPRUS 159 ON HOLD
FLORIDA 139 CAR HIRE ACCOMMODATION
0171 436 0445
Car hire, Insurance & Accommodation
0171-713-7770

CHECK-IN CONTINUES ON PAGE 32 & 33

هكذا من الأصل

ahead





All the moon rock you can handle

Capital Museums · 27

THE TIMES TRAVEL

How to visit the House of Commons

UK travel · 31







Construction projects under way in Hong Kong include the suspension bridges linking Lantau Island and Ma Wan Island (above) to the mainland. Other changes since the reunion with China have been less obvious

# How the east was won back

## Fears of heavy-handed government in Hong Kong have proved unfounded, says **Martin Symington** – but more subtle Chinese influences now pervade the city

Just how has Hong Kong changed since Britain handed the colony back to China six months ago? I am here to find that out. After a 12-hour flight from London, I unwind in my decompression chamber, a 17th-floor room at the Peninsula Hotel on the Kowloon waterfront, and scan the skyline. It looks as familiar as ever.

Hong Kong Island by night, one of the great vistas of the world. Hundreds of clustered skyscrapers point starwards in a carnival of red and gold neon giant signs – OLYMPUS, PHILIPS, SAN MIGUEL – reaching high above the jagged silhouette of Victoria Peak.

I decide to pitch straight in, and join a phalanx of chattering commuters on the Kowloon quayside. We file aboard the Star Ferry and whoosh across Hong Kong harbour. After disembarking, I thread my way uphill through the skyscrapers of Central to the bright lights of the Lan Kwai Fong district – the hub of Hong Kong's nightlife, where expatriate bankers and Chinese yuppies, known as chuppies, strut their stuff.

The hippest hang-outs here are places such as California and Le Jardin, but I opt for the slightly less intimidating Mad Dogs, a boisterous bar heaving with Aussies and Brits, many of whom work on the new airport and railway link.

The proprietor, Andy Neilson, a former Royal Marine and Hong Kong policeman, explains the changes since the handover. "What you have to understand is that Hong Kong is really just a pimple on the bum of China. It has always been a place of change, and the changes you are asking me about all took place before the handover.

"It didn't come out of the blue you know, being reunited with China. Sure, it was a bit sad to see the old Union Jack being run down the flagpole, like burying a favourite uncle. But since then I've been shuttling to and from mainland China. Shanghai – now that's a happening place. Full of opportunities." Neilson is now opening Mad Dogs bars in Beijing and Shanghai.

I soon discover that he is not the only Hong Kong entrepreneur with an eye on Shanghai. I caught up with Irishman Des McGahan, founder of a Hong Kong events and sponsorship company responsible for occasions such as the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens. "I'm working closely with the new regime and cross-border clients," he said.

"There's loads of money to be made here. The audience for many of the events I used to organise was just Hong Kong – six million people. But the China Central Television network (CCTV) has a potential 1.2 billion audience."

Next day, with Shanghai still on the brain, I go shopping – a mainstay of Hong Kong life. The sheer variety and quality of goods makes it an irresistible pastime. And the hottest shop in Central? Shanghai Tang, of course.

David Tang is one of Hong Kong's most colourful and talked-about millionaires. Chinese, educated at an English public school and a hob-nobber with royalty and the glitterati, he owns Hong Kong's trendiest department store. The decor is reminiscent of old Shanghai – heavy wood panelling, spiral staircases, slow fans whirring overhead and wall hangings spun from gold. Only the whiff of opium is missing. The merchandise certainly smacks of China, but the price tags are western.

Baggy Mao-style silk suits and leather jackets are several hundred pounds apiece, while lacquer and dragons adorn the surfaces of all kinds of accessories ranging from mugs and combs to belts.

"The Shanghai Tang label has been described as neo-retro-Sino-chic," a sales assistant tells me, with an all-too-scrutable smile. The irony is clearly not lost on her. "Of course Hong Kong people still love their Armani, Gucci and Versace. But there is a subtle change going on. We are definitely identifying more with China. Jade jewellery is coming back. So is black and gold Chinese furniture. And, of course, all of this" – she waves her arms around the store.

If Tang has his way, Hong Kong-begotten "neo-retro-Sino-chic" will become a global phenomenon. While the likes of Neilson and McGahan are busy selling English pubs and rugby to China, he has opened a huge Shanghai Tang department store on New York's Madison Avenue. Next stops: Paris, Milan and London.

Forty-eight hours into my visit, I sank back into my hotel armchair and gazed again at the night skyline. The seismic changes which have taken place in Hong Kong, I reflected, are mostly hidden under its garish neon signs. Observable differences are small and subtle.

True, I had taken note that postboxes and policemen's buttons have had their imperial coats of arms replaced. The Hong Kong Jockey and the Hong Kong Yacht clubs are no longer Royal.

In place of the Union Jack, the red-and-white bauhinia-flower-flag of the Chinese Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) flies in public places including the Prince of Wales Building, the former British barracks where the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) is now billeted. But, apart from a lone sentry standing guard outside, I saw no sign of a Chinese military presence.

So, for visitors, the changes in Hong Kong barely amount to a hill of beans. Arriving visa-free on a British passport, I swept swiftly through Kai Tak airport while mainland Chinese travellers underwent stricter checks.

The city remains its relentlessly energetic self, pulsing with raw energy in the quest to make money. And it retains its unique ability to put a high-tech slant on old-fashioned ways of life.

Construction projects at the cutting edge of engineering, such as the new Chek Lap Kok airport (scheduled to open in May), and the Lantau link suspension bridges, are in full swing.

But amid the modern are glimpses of the ancient. You still see bamboo scaffolding, and 60-storey structures of steel and plate glass go up only after meticulous consultation with geomancers on the ancient principles of feng shui. An apartment block I visited at Repulse Bay has an enormous hole in the middle to allow dragons to fly through.

I wandered up the steep slopes of West Central pondering these anomalies. In the shadow of some of the world's most freakishly post-modernist structures I joined Central Market's throngs of early morning shoppers.

Powerful scents of fruit, meat, raw fish and herbs led me by the nose. Sacks of unfortunate live crabs, quails and frogs were being humped around. I saw fish being slit from mouth to tail and left on an open-air slab for onlookers to admire the freshness of their internal organs.

In a dark recess an old man in a coolie hat was doing something terrible to a half-dead snake. Every conceivable type of traditional Chinese medicine was available on Cochrane Street: bear's gall, flying squirrel's droppings and deer's penis.

I retired from the crush to a dim sum breakfast at Luk Yu tea house, trying not to think of what was in the little dumplings being served to me by elderly waiters in food-stained white coats.

Later, I paid a visit to the Hong Kong Tourist Association, where a piped version of *In an English Country Garden* played in the lift that whisked me to the 12th floor.

Kenneth Hayden Sadler, deputy executive director and an ex-British Army officer, lamented how, despite appearances, all is not well. "The pace and energy of Hong Kong have, if anything, intensified in the last six months, but in terms of visitor numbers, we are suffering from post-handover-blues," he said.

"The other factor is that three-quarters of our visitors come from Asian countries, whose economies are hurting like hell." Hong Kong's own economy has also been under strain, made worse this week with the collapse of Peregrine, its largest investment bank.

The troubled economies of southeast Asia are not Hong Kong's only problem. Recent news reports have told of the "bird flu" scare, a lethal virus thought to be passed on by chickens, although only a handful of cases have been identified. The Foreign Office advises anyone who develops flu-like symptoms after visiting Hong Kong to see their doctor.

All this, however, has led to vacant Kai Tak-bound aircraft seats, empty hotel rooms, and astoundingly cheap package deals around this winter.

If you have never been to Hong Kong, now is the time. Because who knows how long it will be before that energy-driven sheen begins to tarnish? Who knows how long before the opportunity to feel that frisson of ancient China confronting the modern world will have shifted north to Shanghai?




### HONG KONG FACT FILE

■ Getting there: Martin Symington travelled with British Airways Holidays Premium Collection (01293 723261), which offers, throughout February, a five-night stay at the five-star deluxe Peninsula Hotel from £1,339 per person, including flights from Heathrow, transfers and B&B accommodation.

■ Other deals with British Airways Holidays (01293 723100) start at £375 for flights, transfers and three nights' accommodation at a three-star hotel between February 15 and March 15. Connecting flights for most UK regional airports are also included.

■ Best time to go: spring is generally the most pleasant time to visit – avoiding the clammy humidity of summer, and the cool damp of winter.

■ Visas: not needed by British passport holders for stays of up to six months.

■ Reading: *The Last Governor – Chris Patten & the Handover of Hong Kong* by Jonathan Dimbleby (Little, Brown, £22.50) is a fascinating and compulsive read. *Hong Kong: Epilogue to an Empire* by Jan Morris (Penguin, £8.99) is indispensable background reading. Be sure to get the latest edition. Pick of the guidebooks for practical information are *Hong Kong, Macau and Guangzhou Travel Survival Kit* (Lonely Planet, £9.99) and for feature articles, *The Insight Guide, Hong Kong* (GeoCenter £13.99).

■ Further information: the Hong Kong Tourist Association, 3rd-5th Floor, 125 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EA (0171-930 4775). Website http://www.hkta.org

worldchoice
together we'll go far

up to 30%* off



NCL NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE

'98 cruises

- 14 night Caribbean cruise from £1279pp (normal brochure price £1705pp)
- 12 night Scandinavia Capitals cruise from £1346pp (normal brochure price £1795pp)
- Onboard tips and port taxes included

Imagine sailing to tropical islands in the warm blue Caribbean or cruising past the natural grandeur of glaciers in Alaska, witnessing scenery and history in equal abundance throughout Scandinavia or visiting the South Sea Islands of Hawaii. These are just some of the destinations available in the NCL Worldwide Cruising brochure. Call into your nearest Worldchoice shop today, or call our Cruisesavers hotline on 0990 662 000. Most shops open this Sunday.

Britain's big new travel agent

*30% discount available on all available Norwegian sea sailings, departing 10th January to 10th April. 25% discount available on all other 1998 cruises. Subject to availability and in participating shops only. The offer is subject to the purchase of our travel insurance at the time of booking, typical cost, Worldwide 14 days £61.25. Limited period, applied to new bookings only and may not be combined with any other discounts. Cruisesavers lines open Mon-Fri 9am-8pm, Sat & Sun 9am-5pm. Credit card charge of 1% per transaction may apply to bookings, maximum charge £20. Full details on request. Worldchoice ABTA 49712, A6811 acting as agents for NCL, ATOL 2752.

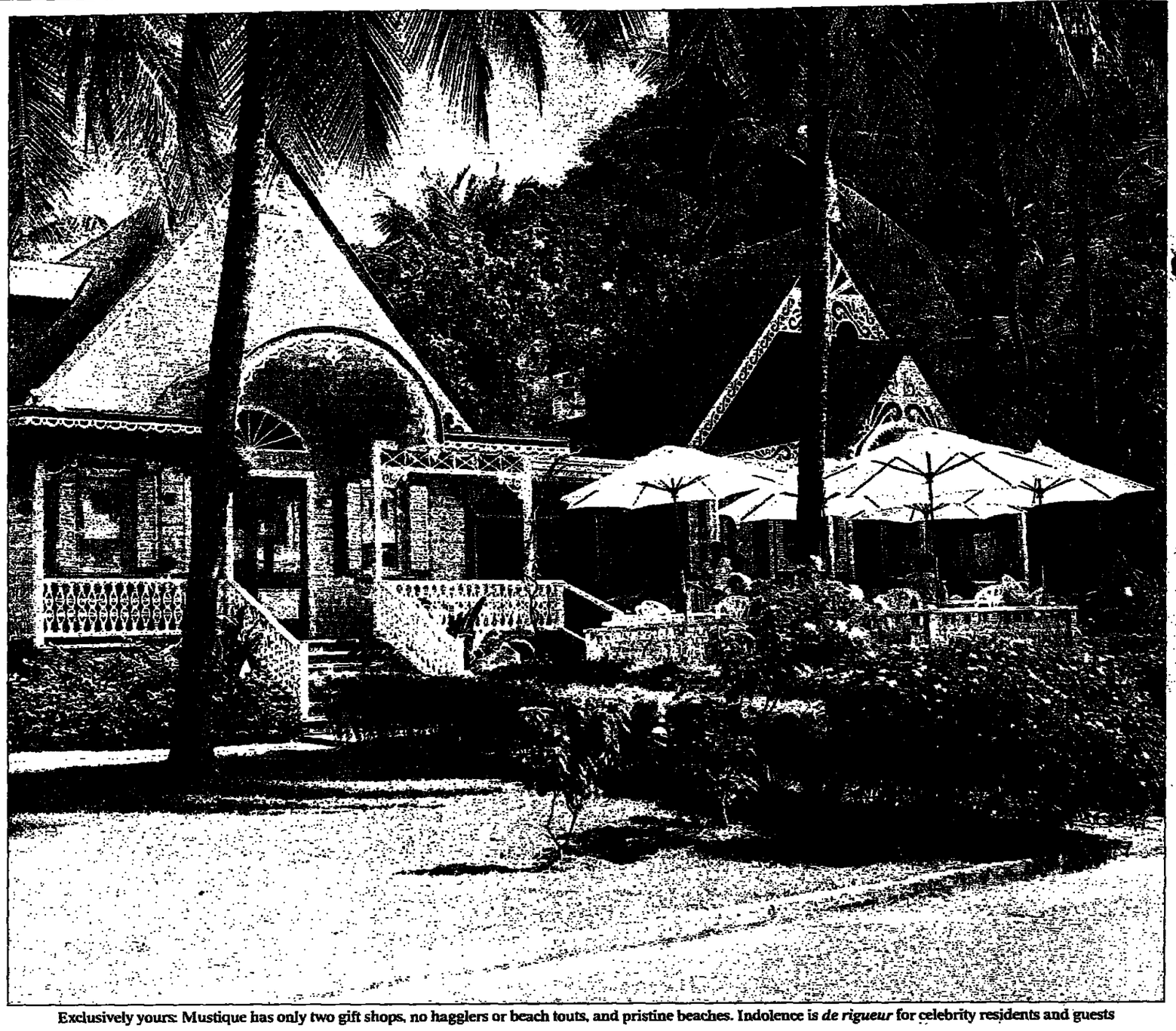
WINTER SUN: THE GRENADINES

JILL HARTLEY



By royal appointment: the living room of HRH's villa

WORLD PICTURES



Exclusively yours: Mustique has only two gift shops, no hagglers or beach touts, and pristine beaches. Indolence is *de rigueur* for celebrity residents and guests

# Chilling out *chez* Princess Margaret

**What happens when your hotel is overbooked? On Mustique, you simply move into the nearest royal villa, as Jill Hartley and friends did**

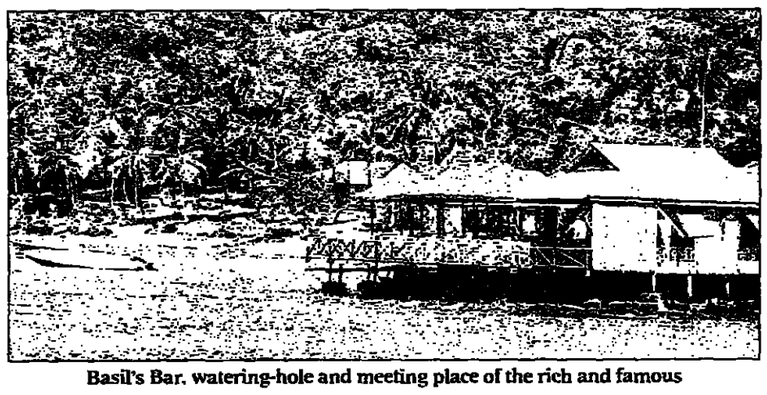
The grey Gatwick morning was lit up by a friendly Bajan woman in a bright flowered dress who asked if we were heading for a holiday in Barbados — "the most beautiful island in the world".

We mumbled our apologies and explained that we were changing planes in Barbados en route for Mustique. Her eyes widened. "Oh. Mustique is lah-di-dah. I can't afford to go there. It is only for the very rich." she shrieked and moved away, as if embarrassed by what she wrongly assumed to be our great wealth.

*In the Seventies this tiny* emerald splodge, one of many *in the southern Caribbean* island chain of the Grenadines, was the world's most exclusive club. To gain entry you had to be titled, rich or famous — preferably all three. Nothing was more salacious than tales of bacchanalian debauchery among the upper classes, and Princess Margaret, the island's most famous hostess, added extra spice to the mystique of Mustique.

Today Mustique — like Mick Jagger, one of its celebrity homeowners — is middle-aged and, despite its posturing, not as cool as it once was. Mick is one of the local school governors, and the Jaggers host an annual fundraising beach picnic for books and equipment — hardly sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.

So Mustique has done the once unthinkable and called in a London public relations company to relaunch itself in the hope of attracting a new breed of big-spending rock stars, supermodels and Hollywood types. Pedigree has been replaced by the platinum card. Membership of the club is open and Mustique awaits its first lottery winner.



Basil's Bar, watering-hole and meeting place of the rich and famous

*Over dinner at Basil's Bar, a* famed waterfront hangout where HRH has been known to dance the night away, I asked Brian Alexander, the well-connected (cricketing chum of Lord Lichfield) managing director of the Mustique Company, why a chic millionaire's hideaway was touring for business.

He laughed and said that Mustique had drawn the line at a couple of fleeing African dictators, but refused to name names. "We were in danger of becoming known as the island of Princess Margaret and Mick Jagger," he said. "That's OK but a little dated. We want to attract younger people. Our homeowners are very rich but they do expect us to work on their behalf to try to let their homes all year round."

Convinced? I wasn't until he explained the way the island runs its affairs. When Colin Tennant (now Lord Glenconner) bought Mustique in 1958 for £45,000, it was a mass of dense scrub with no fresh water, airstrip or roads. In an agreement with the Government of neighbouring St Vincent, he set up the Mustique Company to develop the island.

Tennant sold out for an undisclosed sum in 1976. The company changed hands again in 1988 when it was sold to 55 homeowners, many of them absentees who rent out their villas for most of the year. Today the company is the sole owner of the island, providing and maintaining all essential services.

Most of the 700 islanders work for the company and benefit from free housing, medical insurance, pensions and a school with an educational trust (chaired by Jagger) which provides scholarships. But not all the homeowners' intentions are altruistic. Since June 1966, the Mustique Company has owned the Cotton House, the island's only hotel — a 20-room shrine to hedonism which appears to be permanently full, so presumably makes a profit.

Mustique has the white sand and waving fronds you would expect of the Caribbean, but its real appeal is still its exclusivity. To leave the dingy hum of Barbados airport and be escorted across the tarmac to the ten-seater plane to Mustique is celebrity stuff.

After 50 minutes we landed on a James Bond film set, a tiny airstrip cut into a tropical swathe with a sweet bamboo hut for a terminal. Unfortunately Cotton House was full, so would we mind staying in Princess Margaret's villa, Les Jolies Eaux? Mind! I was already rehearsing my future cocktail-party patter . . . "Have you been away this year?" "Oh yes, we stayed in Margaret's place in Mustique. She doesn't get down much any more. She's given it to the Linleys, you know."

As our Jeep corkscrewed slowly uphill, my head spun with the tropical perfection of it all. Every blade of grass had been mown, every palm tree was perfectly placed and every scrap of litter removed. The scent of frangipani hung on the air as we passed a deserted Robinson Crusoe beach, begging for a photoshoot.

Dusk was falling as the staff of Les Jolies Eaux greeted us with a tray of sundowners. From HRH's terrace we watched a pomegranate-red orb sink slowly into the sea, and pledged never again to say that it must be hard to be royal.

The best thing about the royal villa, apart from the view, is its ordinariness. Bedrooms, including hers, are furnished with simple white rattan and candlewick bedspreads. The sitting room has squishy sofas, copies of *Country Life* on the coffee table, plus Seventies wall-lights and rather naff "collectors' plates".

*Viscount Linley has a few* pieces of his carpentry dotted about, and there are family photos everywhere — though none of his aunt. The effect is that of a lived-in English country house transported to the Caribbean, although some of us did think hanging the Annigoni portrait of a young Queen over the bar was in dubious taste.

Next day, having inspected the bookshelves — biographies, thrillers, John Grisham, Stephen King and Christie's catalogues — looked under the beds for risqué magazines — none — and flicked through the guest book — the Glenconners, the Ogilvies, Pam and Nigel Havers, Hugh Grant and Liz Hurley, Claudia Schiffer — we realised that the whole point of Mustique is that there is absolutely nothing to do.

It seems the super-rich and royal are accustomed to enforced indolence, and pass the days in entertaining each other to pool parties, yacht and beach picnics. Being a hyperactive mob, we opted for an island tour by open-sided Jeep, known locally as a "mule". As Mustique is only three-and-a-half miles by one-and-a-half, it didn't take long. We inspected the beaches (six), the gift shops (two), had a drink at Basil's and it was only 11am.

Soon we discovered that by far the best thing to do on Mustique is to go out unashamedly rubbernecking, snooping round the vacant villas — no one really minds — in the hope of a celebrity encounter. We tried it by boat as well as on foot, and had a great time poking fun at the vulgarity of some of the island's more showy villas.

As would-be guests at the Cotton House, we were welcome visitors and enjoyed a swim from nearby L'Ansecoy Bay, where we positioned ourselves in front of the Jagger villa and took note that the American fashion designer Tommy Hilfiger was currently building next door. Should we meet Mick and Jerry, this seemed a suitable topic for conversation. We didn't.

To be fair to Mustique, it is a sublime, if unreal, environment in which to recharge. Beaches are pristine, the water is bathtub calm and there are no hustlers, hagglers or beach vendors. We passed the days with an elegant chilled-chardonnay-and-starched-white-cloth picnic on Macaroni Beach and perfect afternoon teas on the Cotton House veranda.

The rest of the time we floated indolently in HRH's pool, discussing the previous night's dinner menu from the Cotton House. Did we prefer chef Daniel Pochron's rack of lamb with honey roast potatoes, or his lobster fritters with black onion confit? It was tough but we were beginning to get the hang of how the other half live.

## LIVE LIKE A ROYAL ON MUSTIQUE

■ Jill Hartley travelled to Mustique with Caribtours (0171-581 3517), which offers one week at the Cotton House from £2,577 until April 26, including all meals and drinks. From April 27 to November 8, a week starts at £1,390, excluding meals and drinks.
Both prices are per person, based on two sharing a room, and include return flights on British Airways from Gatwick to Barbados and onward flights with Mustique Airways. Both prices also include the use of unmotorised watersports.

■ Les Jolies Eaux sleeps up to 12 people in six double-bedded rooms. One week's rental until May costs £7,845, and can be booked through Caribtours (0171-581 3517). Prices drop during the summer to £5,710. The price includes the services of three full-time staff and the use of a Jeep, but excludes flights, meals and drinks.




■ Details of other villas are available from Mustique Villa Rentals, Chatham House, Iba College Avenue, Maidenhead, Berkshire SI6 6AX (01628 75544), which can also arrange Jeep or "mule" hire.
A Jeep seating four, or a "mule" seating six, costs US$85 (£55) per day or US$390 (£260) per week.

■ Further information is available from: St Vincent & the Grenadines Tourist Office, 10 Kensington Court, London W8 5DL (0171-937 6570).
The Mustique Company Ltd, PO Box 349, Kingstown, St Vincent & the Grenadines. West Indies (001 809 458 4621), e-mail: *mustico@caribsurf.com*

Northern Cyprus

10%

Imagine a Cyprus where the beaches are deserted; where the scenery is unspoilt and where the cost of living is blissfully affordable. Imagine a Cyprus where the words 'high rise' refer to the mountains and not to the buildings. Imagine...

NORTHERN CYPRUS

Unchained and unspoilt since the colonial days. Northern Cyprus waits to enchant you with its unique blend of serenity, tranquillity and beauty. If you thought this vision of Cyprus was lost forever... then think again.

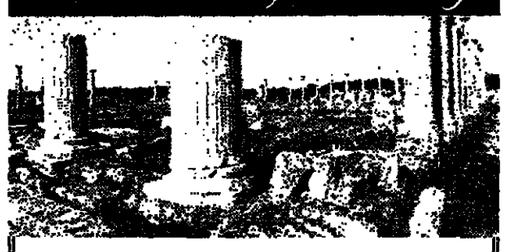
For a free brochure NORTH CYPRUS

Cyprus Tourism Organisation

0181 343 8888

689 High Road, London N12 0DA

A Pillar of Society



Founded in the 12th century BC by Teucer, a hero returning from the Trojan wars, the ancient city of Salamis was the richest on the island with an amphitheatre built to seat 20,000. The remains of the ancient harbour, once a centre of commerce, can still be seen in the clear, shallow water.

Unhurried and unspoilt, North Cyprus is truly the spirit and soul of Cyprus. Call 0541555650 for more details.

Salamis FAMAGUSTA KYRENIA

NORTH CYPRUS

A sanctuary of unspoilt beauty

North Cyprus Tourism Centre 29 Bedford Square, LONDON. Tel: 0171 631 1930

Unspoilt TURKEY & NORTH CYPRUS

Excellent choice of friendly family-run or luxury hotels, SC accommodation and private villas with pools for superb beach holidays at affordable prices.

- Exclusive Gulet Cruises
- Istanbul breaks & town centre
- Cultural Tailor Made Holidays
- Flight Only

EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNTS

Call for our brochure 24 hour

0127 633 4078

ANATOLIAN SKY HOLIDAYS

NORTH CYPRUS

Winter & Summer Sun

NORTH CYPRUS

NORTH CYPRUS * ISTANBUL TWO CENTRE OPTION

WINTER BREAKS FROM £199

ISTANBUL CITY BREAKS FROM £176.

10% SUMMER EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT • IF YOU BOOK BEFORE 31/1/98

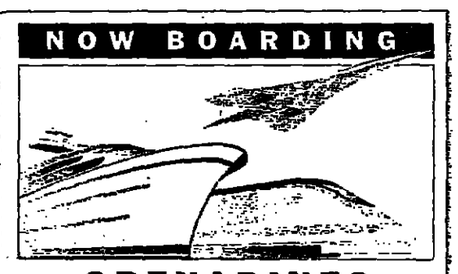
0181-688 7555

BROCHURE LINE 0181-667 1313

PRESIDENT HOLIDAYS

ABTA V6574 ATOL 2483

NOW BOARDING



GRENADINES

**Who goes there?** Yachties, honeymooners, second-rank royals and the seriously rich.

**Getting the ball rolling:** Brochures available from St Vincent & the Grenadines Tourist Office (0171-937 6570), 10 Kensington Court, London W8 5DL. There is no guidebook specifically for the Grenadines. The new edition of *Guide to the Bahamas & the Caribbean* (Cadogan, £17.99) is the best to the region.

**Perfect timing:** The Grenadines are sufficiently far south to be outside the Caribbean hurricane belt: however, summer tropical storms can be strong enough to ground planes and damage property. Temperatures for most of the year hover between 25C (77F) and 28C (82F). Prices are stratospheric for Christmas and New Year, spring and autumn are cheaper.

**Suitcase strategy:** Pack light and loose. Men don't need a jacket and tie, even in five-star restaurants. Suntan lotion, cosmetics, film and beach clothes all cost more out there. Bring back rum, Cuban cigars, spices.

**The pound in your pocket:** Take US dollars or dollar travellers' cheques. Expect to pay £2 for a beer in a local bar, £3.50 in a hotel, £4-£6 for a gin and tonic, £25-£30 a head for a meal with wine.

**Turn of phrase:** "No problem" usually means there is one. "Do you smoke?" means "do you want to buy some unusual tobacco?" An interest in cricket gives you instant street cred.

**Big no-nos:** Nudity or toplessness. Forgetting to tip. Criticising Junior Murray, the only Grenadian cricketer ever to make it into a Test side.

**Nasty surprises:** Sand flies which, unlike mosquitoes, don't wait until dusk to start biting. Rolf Harris, who allegedly occasionally entertains on his didgeridoo at the Firefly bar, Mustique. Sticky cocktails — stay with rum punch, wine or beer.

**Not to be missed:** A boat trip to the Tobago Cays. Afternoon tea on the veranda at the Cotton House, Mustique. A trip to Kingstown Market, St Vincent — a virtual tourist-free zone.

**Ways to go:** Via Barbados or Grenada with British Airways (0345 222111) from Gatwick. Return flights this month from £794 (Barbados), £469 (Grenada). Onward to Mustique from Barbados with Mustique Airways, from £126 return with Caribbean Experience (0171-602 4021). The regional carrier LIAT connects the smaller islands with Grenada, from £65 return. Book through Caribbean Connection Flights (01244 355303).

**Any good packages?** Caribtours (0171-581 3517) has one week at the Cotton House, Mustique from £2,577 per person, including flights, meals and drinks. Harlequin Worldwide (01708 852780) has one week in Grenada, followed by one week sailing the Grenadines on a crewed yacht, at £2,629 per person.

**Dull but essential:** No visa or jabs required. Save $10 for departure tax. They rarely have change.

9HN. Telephone 0141-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER AT THE POST OFFICE.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل



WINTER SUN: THE GRENADINES



ALEX HAMILTON

Locals in Port Elizabeth. Bequia, feared for their way of life when a new airport was built, but the pace remains sedentary and the pristine beaches gloriously deserted. And the gourmet cuisine has even attracted a royal visit

# How do you spell Jagger?

**Alex Hamilton** is given the VIP treatment on an island-hopping expedition to some of the most exclusive retreats in the Caribbean

Union Island in the Grenadines is all humps, with one directly in front of the airstrip, and the plane just hurdles it. Furthermore, customs and immigration are always humpy, so it is a relief to be off in a launch to Petit St Vincent (PSV), our wake foaming like peppermint soda. This is a private island resort where men, women and dogs are spoilt rotten. Baggage without a Concorde label tends to look conspicuous.

A warm welcome is routine and exceptionally warm in my case because they thought I was Keith Mitchell from *Ins and Outs* magazine in Barbados. In no time I was eating Mitchell's lunch — an excellent Beef Wellington followed by carrot cake — in the company of accountant John Cobbett, who looks after PSV during the absences of Haze Richardson, the resort's founder.

Cobbett adjusted himself well to *the substitution* and, presuming *Times* readers to be hellenophiles, talked about the meritocracy of Areopagus after the fall of the tyrants. He said he favoured political chaos as practised in the West Indies rather than a tightly controlled system — an unexpectedly relaxed view from an accountant.

The appearance of six portly Labradors (one had died recently) led to more serious matters. They are on a diet of chicken and rice now, instead of dog food, but the sybaritic life of PSV does not help. Idle guests should understand their problem.

Nothing much changes on PSV. They still like personal cheques and decline credit cards. It offers the same 22 luxury cabins around the perimeter discreetly swathed in foliage, as when I first stayed 15 years ago, and the same coy business is done with yellow flags signalling a need for service and red flags to insist on privacy. The fitness trails, mini-mokes and croquet hoops like football goals, all look pristine.

There is still only one beach. That's because it goes right around the island. People walk it in an hour, with one short stretch in the water. Offshore, there is the same bookable option of a picnic on Petit St Richardson, the smallest sand island in the Caribbean, a few metres across with one beach umbrella for vegetation. Several of the staff of 80 have served PSV for 20 years.

Recently, however, a malaise has been felt. Richardson was formerly captain of a fine three-masted schooner, which he sold to help buy the island. *Comme-il-faut* yachties who fetched up in the channel between PSV and Petit Martinique were always welcome in the bar. But sailing traffic in the Grenadines has increased enormously.

Amateurs abound, renting yachts. The Germans are found to be civil, if noisy, and the French the most uncouth. These are not Martiniquais, who know sailing and observe PSV etiquette, but metropolitan bareboaters who can't tell a jib from a gybe, and bump into anchored boats. Fearful of style clashes between clients who want peace and quiet and sailboat people who want anything but, PSV frets over the need for a *cordon sanitaire*.

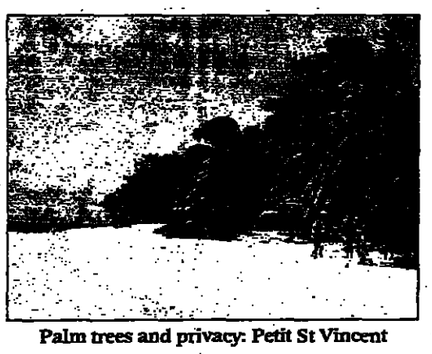
Is there anywhere to retreat from a hideaway? Actually, yes. Cobbett has his own house on the island of Bequia among the hidden properties of Moon Hole, where a narrow path clambers steeply up from a lost beach through a densely wooded bluff.

It is not necessary to go to the extremes of Moon Hole to be at fragrant peace with the world on Bequia, a place you might suggest to fraught celebrities to escape a ratpack of journalists. Locals would never give them away. When Mick Jagger checked in from his pad on nearby Mustique, the clerk in reception asked, "How do you spell Jagger?"

Bequia regulars were anxious lest the new airport, which can accommodate 80-seater planes, should shake up the quiet life in the picturesque haven of Port Elizabeth. So far it hasn't happened. The beach by my hotel was deserted. Not a mark on it until, dramatically, I came on some pawprints. Dog Friday.

I stayed in a room at Friendship Bay that had just been vacated by Queen Silvia of Sweden. She happened by in a yacht and heard of the wonderful Swedish cooking at Friendship Bay done by Margit Abrahamsson, and put in for an overnight. The guards apparently slept on the lawn, taking alternate one-hour shifts, a recipe surely for a nervous breakdown.

Our room had a tiled floor with a fading floral pattern, and a lethargic overhead fan fixed to a wooden ceiling which, like the door and outside walls, had the light whitewash common to little wooden houses all over Bequia. The bed was queen size if not grand, but a queen might sleep well on the thick, comfortable mattress.



Palm trees and privacy: Petit St Vincent

I can't say whether she enjoyed drinking with Lars Abrahamsson, whose cocktails must earn the respect of his Scandinavian clientele. A big blond bearded man, once a sailor and latterly a stressed-out estate broker in Gothenburg, he and his wife, award-winning cook Margit, roamed the Caribbean in search of a neglected place to serve gourmet meals.

Speaking of Friendship reminds me that in the 18th century some Quakers dropped anchor in the hidden bay of Guana Island (in the British Virgins). Between dry-forested hills that rise about 500ft at 45 degrees from the sea, on The Flat, they grew *cotton, and by the salt pond dug pits* lined with brain coral for colour dyeing. They built houses with rock, to last. Relics of their occupation still resist the tumbling creepers and the swollen roots of massive turpentine trees. The designers of the scatter of modern villas above The Flat took note and built walls of medieval thickness.

This 850-acre fastness is about as secure a luxury retreat as the Caribbean can offer. When Richard Branson's island of Necker was trashed by the hurricane, Guana could take the business. Flamingoes from Anegada settled in on the salt pond, and rock iguanas found a beach to lay eggs.

In some strange way, Guana has become the repository of a great variety of rare plants and small creatures, many of them indigenous. Visiting naturalists contribute their *trouvailles* to a small but growing museum on a hillside, as casually as guests have left their books to become a kind of coral reef of bygone fiction — the tales of Lloyd Douglas, John Steinbeck, Pearl Buck, Axel Munthe, Jerzy Kosinski . . .

With a pile of these, a bottle from the honours bar, the rocking chair on the veranda, and a crab trying to steady itself before plunging down the steps, I was well placed, in a villa called Fallen Jerusalem, to regard Tortola across the water, a byword for life in the slow lane, as a land in reckless overdrive.

## HOW TO JOIN THE VIPs

■ Alex Hamilton travelled with Harlequin Worldwide Travel (01708 852780). The company can tailor itineraries to demand. For example, a week at Petit St Vincent and a second week at Plantation House, Bequia, costs £3,744 per person including all flights. The price falls to £2,378 in low season (after April 15).

■ A week's full board at PSV alone costs £2,795 (£1,716 after May 1); a week's B&B on Bequia, £1,459 (£1,166).

■ Getting there: British Airways (0345 222111) and BWIA (0171-745 1100) both fly to Barbados and Antigua.

■ While prices average £750 return until the end of March, cheaper fares are available through The Caribbean Experience (0171-602 4021), which quotes fares to both islands of £574 with BA, £560 with BWIA. The cheapest fare from The Caribbean Experience is on Caledonian Airways, with average prices to both Barbados and Antigua of £370 return. Prices vary according to date of travel and demand.

■ The Caribbean Experience can also book connecting flights. Guana: Onward flights from Antigua to Beef Island cost from £116 return; then a launch to Guana. PSV: Onward flights from Barbados to Union Island with Mustique Airways cost from £126 return; then a launch to PSV. Bequia: Onward flights from Barbados cost from £123 return with Mustique Airways.

■ Accommodation: Reservations at Petit St Vincent can also be made through its US office (001 513 242 1333). Current rates for full-board accommodation are $770 (£470) for two people, per night, plus 10 per cent service and 7 per cent tax. Low season prices, starting in mid-April, are $490 (£300) excluding taxes.

■ The price includes a launch transfer from Union Island. The hotel can also arrange connecting flights from Barbados to Union for $130 (£80) per person each way.

■ On Bequia, current rates for a double room, B&B, at the Friendship Bay (001 809 458 3222) start at $200 (£120). The author stayed at Moon Hole by special invitation — it is not open to visitors.

Venice Florence & Rome

See three Italian cities that together are a treasure trove of culture, bonded by their history yet totally distanced in their characters.

Venice 'Bride of the Sea' whose streets of rippling water made it the world's capital of commerce.

Florence. Known as the 'Divine City' because of the sheer scope of its beauty and artistic treasures. Famous sights include the Ponte Vecchio and the Uffizi Museum.

Rome. Rich in relics of the past – the Forum, Colosseum and Pantheon bring history to life.

8 DAYS from £319*

VENICE
ASSISI
ROME
PISA
FLORENCE

PLUS
LIDO DI JESOLO 7 Extra Nights from £60
SORRENTO 7 Extra Nights from £114
LAKE GARDA 7 Extra Nights from £124

* Prices shown for departure on March 1 or 8 from Gatwick. Holidays and offers subject to availability

TOUR PRICES INCLUDE

★ Flights from Gatwick. Flights from Stansted, Birmingham, Manchester and Glasgow are available at a supplement.
★ Fully Escorted Tour on a comfortable, air-conditioned coach with semi-reclining seats.
★ Services of an Archers tour director.
★ Hotel Accommodation: 7 nights in twin rooms with private facilities.
★ Meals: 7 breakfasts; 4 dinners.
★ Local Coach Connections from over 1,000 towns to your departure airport for only £5.
★ All airport taxes and security charges (including £10 UK Air Passenger Duty).

DIRECT FLIGHTS from up to 5 UK AIRPORTS

BROCHURE ALSO FEATURES

20 Quality Escorted Tours of North America.
8 Exciting Holidays to Far Away Places, including: Australia, Sri Lanka, Cuba, Mexico, Jamaica, The Far East, China, Kenya.
21 Holidays to Europe & The Mediterranean, including: Italy, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Majorca, Malta, Madeira and Morocco.

BOOK DIRECT & SAVE ££s

CALL OUR 24hr BROCHURE LINE 01233 211 100
QUOTE REF. E-BTI 1701-ZIT

OR CUT THE COUPON AND POST TO: ARCHERS, PO Box 170, Ashford, Kent TN24 0ZA

NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE TELEPHONE

ABTA V4848

Archers
BOOK DIRECT FOR BETTER VALUE
A member of the COSMOS Group, market leaders in escorted coach tours for over 30 years.

Visit Walt Disney with someone

As no-one knows Disney holidays better, you can trust Bridge Travel Service to make the Florida dream a reality. Who else offers:

- Flights by scheduled airlines.
- Luxury chauffeur driven transfers or car hire for the duration of your stay.
- Total flexibility. Stay as long as you please or combine your Walt Disney World® Resort holiday with a Florida beach resort.
- Five day entrance pass or upgrade to unlimited entrance for the duration of your stay.
- A choice of 15 unique Walt Disney World® Resort hotels.
- Transportation throughout Walt Disney World® Resort in Florida.
- Prices from £568* per person.

Bridge Travel Service
Bridge House, 55-59 High Road, Broxbourne, Herts, EN10 7BT
* 7 night holiday based on a family of 4 (2 adults, 2 children 3-9 yrs) sharing a room
ABTA W5361 ATOL 1534

Trust the specialists and call 01992 456106 today for a brochure or to book

Offering You The World of Disney

CORK & KERRY

BEAT THE CLOCK

SLEEP OVER ARRIVING AT 7am

SAVE OVER 400 MILES OF DRIVING

CAR + 5 ADULTS FROM £75 SINGLE JOURNEY £139 MID WEEK RETURN

For cabin space book early!

SELF CATERING WEEK FROM £39 PER PERSON Based on 6 people sharing £236 PACKAGE PRICE

For ferry passage, holiday brochure and reservations, contact

SWANSEA CORK FERRIES

FREEPHONE 0800 783 8006 or contact your local travel agent

SKI WEEKEND: AVALANCHE ALERT

# Danger that lurks off-piste



DOUG SAGER

*I WAS about to die with an expletive on my lips. My entire life did not pass before my eyes in flashback. Neither did time stand still.*

*But I did, legs and arms pinned weightily down by shifting blocks of snow moving in deceptive slow motion up around my chest.*

*I struggled, trying to kick off skis and shrug off the rucksack, so as not to be dragged down into the tugging tide of snow.*

*I screamed, not without some embarrassment. Craning my neck to look down the hill to my potential rescuers — equipped like me with avalanche transceivers, shovels and probes — I could see that they were deep in conversation, heads turned in the opposite direction.*

*"This is bloody stupid," I said aloud, to myself. Somebody must have been listening. Because the six-inch thick slabs of light but lethal snow stopped rising at my throat.*

Sooner or later, no matter what precautions are taken, the off-piste skier and, particularly, the ski tourer, will encounter an avalanche. With luck, it will be a slab-type slide that cracks off below the skier's tracks, leaving him emotionally stirred but not shaken — ice cubes of this kind can weigh 800 kilograms per cubic metre.

Even intermediates, skiing on piste, may witness a snow "slough". This is a localised fall of snow too insignificant to qualify as an "avalanche", but the bathtub drowning analogy still applies. I have seen skiers knocked down and killed by the sheer weight and momentum of wet slides less than a foot deep.

The most fearsome type of avalanche, the powder slide — whose colossal pressure wave can flatten concrete buildings — is seldom experienced in the Alps, especially in these years of less than impressive snowfall, and since steel avalanche fences have been erected above alpine villages.

Nowadays routine bombing by avalanche patrols usually knocks down potential powder slides before they can build up an uncontrollable mass. But in January 1994, two small powder slides swept 29 skiers off the slopes of Saas Fee, killing none but injuring every skier caught.

Tragedies, such as the accident in Klosters ten years ago, in which the Prince of Wales's friend Major Hugh Lindsay was killed and Patty Palmer-Tomkinson injured (she is now skiing again after seven operations), attract enormous attention. This fuels the popular misconception that only daredevil skiers are at risk.

In fact, even recreational skiers snowploughing along groomed and patrolled beginner slopes are at risk from rogue avalanches, as are hikers, motorists and tourists in their beds. All feature regularly in global avalanche statistics.

Last winter, 4,000 tourists were trapped inside buildings in Little Cottonwood Canyon, Utah, when cars and pedestrians were buried in powder slides. No one was killed.

Avalanches of millions of tons begin with a single snowflake. Although individual crystals are unique, snow can be categorised according to water content, size of crystal and length of needles.

Once compacted in the snowpack, crystals undergo transformations determined by temperature and time.

The most effective test for assessing the stability of the snowpack is to dig a hole. Distinct layers are exposed and often display considerable temperature and texture differences.

Most dangerous are layers of ball bearing-like granules. These layers do not bond with those above and below them, and are prone to sliding off the snowpack in slabs.

This kind of slide can be provoked merely by ski tracks cutting into the snow, or by naturally accumulated stress as gravity pulls the snowpack downhill over rocks and concave surfaces.

Wind is a critical factor, packing snow into formations sure to eventually fall. Temperature changes, especially warm and sunny weather after a snowstorm, also contribute to natural releases.

Many factors, across terrain that creates different conditions from one metre to the next, are involved in avalanche assessment. This means that general forecasts are frequently confounded by localised anomalies.

There is an international scale of danger, but it is not easy for the recreational skier to interpret. And many resorts in the Alps are less than responsible in its application.

Regional avalanche centres publish detailed bulletins warning of danger at specific altitudes and on specific exposures. For example, a bulletin might read: "considerable danger above 2,700m on north-facing concave slopes of more than 30 degrees".

Local tourist offices and ski schools should post such bulletins (though they are seldom in English) and can always supply telephone numbers for direct contact with avalanche centres.

The international danger scale identifies five numbered categories of risk, ideally marked in resorts by flags and written warnings: 1 green (low danger) 2 yellow (moderate) 3 orange (considerable) 4 red (high) 5 black (extreme). Unfortunately, the wording of such notices, where they appear, is still not universally standardised.

As a guide, in yellow (2) conditions, skier-triggered slides are "possible", rising to "probable" in orange (3) conditions and escalating from "likely" to "certain" as conditions deteriorate from red (4) to black (5).

As skiers will observe for themselves, most resorts in the Alps ignore the coloured-flag system and simply hoist a standard yellow-and-black chequered flag signifying general avalanche danger. In many places, once hoisted, this flag is left flying all winter.

If the motivation is suspect — protection from lawsuits when skiers are killed on a "low" day and a reduction in the workload required when flags in multiple locations must be changed daily — the message is accurate.

There is always *some* risk. Even on green days, when "travel is generally safe", according to the official assessment, "isolated areas of instability" remain.

Skiers should be particularly sceptical of any guide who announces: "Don't worry, you don't need your avalanche transceivers — there's zero risk today." I skied last winter with two French ski teachers who uttered precisely those words — in Méribel and in Les Arcs. And on both occasions we encountered avalanche activity off-piste.

The surest way to survive an avalanche is simply not to be there when it happens. But just as sailors in open water may encounter sudden squalls, skiers off-piste cannot avoid encountering dangerous areas.

As my own unfortunate experience taught me, all the equipment in the world will not be of much use if your companions happen to be looking the other way at the crucial moment.

Research from Switzerland, however, shows that your best chance of survival is immediate rescue by companions on scene and equipped with an avalanche transceiver, a device that constantly transmits a radio signal and can be switched in an emergency to detect the signal from a victim's transceiver.

The Swiss research found that about 70 per cent of all victims dug out by skiers on scene survived, the same percentage that died when they had to wait for rescue teams to arrive.

Another device with great promise and beginning to gain increasing acceptance is the rucksack equipped with an air bag, similar to those used in cars. In an emergency, pulling a ripcord instantly inflates the airbag, which helps to buoy the skier to the surface of the moving avalanche. All 12 victims equipped with airbags, caught in real avalanches in Switzerland, survived.

Airbags are difficult to find, sold only in a limited number of mountaineering shops in the Alps. But every off-piste skier should at all times be equipped with an avalanche transceiver. I have found the Austrian Pieps OptiFinder (£175; telephone 01224 634628 for UK stockists; can usually be hired in major resorts) the least expensive and the most reliable transceiver currently on the market.

A shovel, probe and first-aid kit are essential rescue items. Radios and mobile phones do not usually work in high mountain areas.

Skiing with a certified mountain guide is a sensible precaution, but no guarantee against being caught and killed, as incidents involving guided parties — including Prince Charles's in Klosters — have demonstrated.



SYGMA

A "powder slide" avalanche in Glarus, Switzerland. Fortunately such fearsome slides are rare in the Alps

## FACT FILE

- Avalanches have already killed 14 people in British Columbia, western Canada, and three skiers in France, this year. The three French skiers died on January 4 when an avalanche hit a party of six at Col du Galibier in the French Alps. Three avalanches hit the Rocky Mountains on January 2 and 3, when six skiers were killed in the Kokanee Glacier Park. Two more skiers died close to Mt Alwin, and a snowmobiler at Elliott Lake. Western Canada's average annual death total is 10.
- Avalanche statistics have been kept in Switzerland since 1880, before skiing became a sport in the Alps. The worst year in Swiss history was 1951, when 98 people were killed — and only two were tourists. Even today in North America, avalanches often claim as many non-skiers as skiers and snowboarders. Last year reports compiled by the Westside Avalanche Network (*http://www.avalanche.org*) for North America show that nine helicopter skiers, two snowboarders and six skiers died in slides, as did eight climbers and eight snowmobilers.
- A 19-year study (1975-1994) published by the 17 nations of the International Alpine Rescue Committee (Cisa) counts 2,909 deaths, or 153 per year.
- Skiers are at less risk in North America where, compared with the Alps, safety regulations are stricter, resorts are smaller and there are fewer off-piste ski tourers. Cisa figures for 1992 to 1996 record 141 deaths in North America and 365 in the Alps.
- Most at risk in the Alps are high-mountain ski tourers who spend weeks at a time skiing from one mountain hut to another. Skiers on resort runs account for only 1 per cent of avalanche deaths.
- The most recent study, focusing on Switzerland from 1985 to 1997, shows that 93 per cent of deaths involved mountain recreation of some form. Of the 1,305 victims caught in slides only 278 (21 per cent) died.

## Alps slow for snow

It is by no means the worst winter on record. But this is proving a frustrating season of discontent for most recreational skiers. Despite intermittent snowfalls and generally good conditions at high altitudes, the Alps have yet to receive the kind of peak-to-valley cover that allows wide-ranging skiing throughout and between linked resorts.

Off-piste skiers face considerable extra risk: crevasses are huge this season — snowfalls have been insufficient to fill them in; and exposed rocks make steep couloirs doubly dangerous. Italy has done far better this season than other Alpine nations; Austria's low-lying villages suffering particularly on homeward runs.

Links between large French areas such as the Portes du Soleil and Trois Vallées, when open, are in less than ideal condition. In North America, snow cover is better than in the Alps, but still not as good as last year.

● Less than halfway through the season, mainstream tour operators have already released their brochures for next winter. To mark its 25th anniversary, Thomson (0990 329329) is offering £25 off every holiday.

BALES' INDIA




*Ten inspirational accompanied journeys through India from £725 to £3,295*

The princely splendour of the Maharajahs, the historic legacy of colonial rule . . . they are just part of what we are proud to call Bales' India.

Since 1964, we have accompanied small groups of like-minded individuals to share our passion for travel. Our hand-picked local guides will ensure that you enjoy your experience to the full by bringing to life the very fabric of India. Indeed, if you wish, we can tailor-make your trip exactly to your specification.

All our journeys include in the price as standard; scheduled flights, excursions, tips and most meals. So for the full story of Bales' India call and request our new worldwide brochure for '98.

TEL 01306 885923
ABTA V7047 – ATOL 2882

BALES Worldwide

THE EXPERIENCE IS THE DIFFERENCE

SPECIAL OFFER

from £299

TAJ MAHAL INDIA

7 nights including full breakfast

Agra dates back many centuries with a fascinating history. The spine-tingling Taj Mahal is a 'must' for every traveller to India and your stay in Agra will enable you to leisurely view one of the most wondrous sights on earth.

Clarks Shiraz Hotel: Good medium class hotel located in a residential area. Air conditioned rooms with bath, shower/wc. Lounge, bar, restaurant, swimming pool.

Mughal Sheraton: 1st class hotel with excellent facilities. Air-conditioned with bath, shower, WC, TV and telephone. Choice of restaurants, coffee shop and bar. Swimming pool, tennis, mini-golf.

| Departures: | Clarks | MS | Departures: | Clarks | MS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 27 Jan '98 | £299 | £399 | 10 Mar | £319 | £449 |
| 03 Feb | £399 | £479 | 17 Mar | £379 | £479 |
| 10 Feb | £349 | £449 | 24 Mar | £319 | £479 |
| 17 Feb | £379 | £479 | 31 Mar | £399 | £499 |
| 24 Feb | £299 | £499 | 07 Apr | £629 | £699 |
| 03 Mar | £349 | £449 | 14,21 Apr | £449 | £549 |

Prebookable optional excursion programme: £20
Agra City Tour: Half day tour incl the Red Fort & Taj Mahal
Fatehpur Sikri: Half day tour of the deserted city.

Price includes: Return flights/Gatwick. UK Dept. Tax £20. 7 nts accom inc full breakfast. Transfers. Prices per person sharing twin.
Not included: Indian visa, local dept. tax (approx £8). Optional insurance: £33. Booking conditions apply.

To book, telephone: (open daily inc Sat/Sun)
☎ 01306 744300
Fax: 01306 744334
ABTA V256X
ATOL 133

The Travel Collection
Deepdene House, Dorking, Surrey RH5 4AZ

IT'S SNOWING

Airtours SKI

Europe From £129

USA From £299

| G'WICK | M'CR | COUNTRY | RESORT | ACCOMMODATION | JAN | FEB | BOARD | NTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| £129 | £129 | ANDORRA | PAS DE LA CASA | LILLEHAMMER APTS | - | 1, 8 | 2A/SC | 7 |
| £219 | £259 | AUSTRIA | ELLMAU | CHALET DORFBLICK | 24, 31 | 7 | 2A/HB | 7 |
| £259 | £259 | ITALY | LIVIGINO | HOTEL VALANDREA | 31 | 7 | 3A/HB | 7 |
| £279 | £279 | ITALY | SAUZE D'OULX | CLUB HTL GRAN BOSCO | - | 8 | 3A/HB | 7 |
| £279 | £279 | FRANCE | LES DEUX ALPES | CHALET LES CHERUBINS | - | 7 | 3A/HB | 7 |
| £279 | £319 | FRANCE | CHAMONIX | CHALET ROMAN | - | 7 | 3A/HB | 7 |
| £299 | - | USA | BRECKENRIDGE | WOODS MANOR CONDOS | 28 | 4 | 3A/SC | 10 |
| £299 | £329 | AUSTRIA | ST ANTON | CHALET JANK | 31 | 7 | 3A/HB | 7 |
| £319 | £269 | CANADA | BANFF | BUMPERS INN | 24, 31 | - | 2A/RO | 11 |
| £369 | - | CANADA | WHISTLER | CHALET SNOWRIDGE | 21, 28 | - | 4A/HB | 7 |
| £449 | - | USA | BRECKENRIDGE | CHALET RIVERS EDGE | 31 | 7 | 3A/HB | 11 |
| £549 | - | CANADA | WHISTLER | CHALET NORTHERN LIGHTS | 31 | 7 | 3A/HB | 11 |

SEE Teletext on ITV p 258

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE YOUR LOCAL TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL

0541 507 101

Open Mon-Fri 8.30am - 8pm Sat 9am - 8pm Sun 10am - 8pm

Airtours
The Holiday Makers

Airtours Holidays Ltd., acting as agents for Airtours plc, ATOL 1179. ABTA V6896. Subject to availability. Insurance extra. Offer valid until close of business Monday 19th January 1998. £6 per person booking fee applies to telephone bookings. Prices per person based on 2 sharing. HB= Half Board. SC= Self Catering. RO= Room Only. G'WICK= Gatwick. M'CR= Manchester.

Discover river cruises that span the wonders of the Danube, Rhine-Mosel, and Waterways of Russia with Swan Hellenic. Call 0171 800 2200.

Contact with Hellenic 77 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1PP

P&O ATOL 0987

SWAN HELLENIC

هكذا من الأصل



# I reached for the moon – and touched it







**Paul Mansfield** kicks off a new series on the world's greatest museums with a visit to the National Air and Space Museum in Washington

One of the most engrossing exhibits at Washington's National Air and Space Museum has nothing to do with planes and spaceships. Where Next, Columbus? is a small display on Level Two. It begins with the astounding (to me) historical fact that the Chinese might easily have discovered America before Columbus. They had reached Africa, but were called off any further searches by 15th-century rulers who suddenly lost their appetite for adventure.

I was still thinking about the course that history might have taken if the Chinese had kept on sailing when the exhibit turned into an examination of *the moral nature of exploration*. Why explore at all? Why has exploration become synonymous with colonisation? These and other questions provide a thoughtful context in which to place the spectacular hardware on display.

And it really is spectacular. You push open the Air and Space Museum's doors to be confronted by three staggering sights. Suspended in mid-air is Charles Lindbergh's *Spirit of St Louis*, the plane in which he made the first solo non-stop Atlantic crossing in 1927. Next to it is the command module of *Apollo 11* which carried Neil Armstrong and his team to the first moon landing in 1969. Below that is a small triangle of moon rock, yours to touch. And that is just the start. It is easy to see why this is the world's most popular museum, with more than 175 million visitors since it opened in 1976.

Inside its bulky concrete exterior, the museum is a split-level atrium filled with light and space. The atmosphere is easy-going — there are plenty of families and no security men glowering next to the exhibits — and there is more than enough room to move around. In every direction your eye is drawn to gleaming planes, huge rockets and other bits of machinery which dominate the floor and air space.

This is a vast museum, so

CAPITAL MUSEUMS

where is the best place to start? Some basic general knowledge seemed in order, so I headed for How Things Fly, a hands-on demonstration of the principles of taking to the sky. "If you want to gauge the difference in gravity between sea level and 30,000 feet — lift these iron bars. Have you ever wondered why aircraft wings are sharp at the back? Pour water on a scale model to find out. Lift, gravity and thrust are all entertainingly demonstrated; there is even a visitor-operated supersonic wind tunnel. Should all the science prove too oppressive, a notice advises the time of the paper airplane competition which takes place every day.

You could chart a historical course around the Air and Space Museum, beginning with early flight and ending with the conquest of space. But the sight of those enormous rockets is irresistible. I queued briefly to enter the gigantic cylinder of Skylab. The queue was short for a reason: many Americans rush through the exhibits at a terrifying pace. "I wanted to stay in there for a while to get the feel of it," said one British tourist. "But people sort of pushed me along."

On the ground floor stood a *lunar exploration module*, which at close range resembled a collection of tin foil and cardboard from *Blue Peter*. Towering above our heads were two menacing inter-continental ballistic missiles: a Pershing and a Russian SS-20 which were lined up against each other in mutual deterrence during the Cold War years. The museum fair-mindedly tells the story of East-West confrontation through the history of the space race and the frequently idiotic politics behind it. It is *on less sure ground, however*, in other areas.

The most controversial exhibit is the partly restored fuselage of *Enola Gay*, the plane that dropped the first atom bomb on Hiroshima in 1945. Newspaper pages from the time describe the scale of destruction and the bomb's devastating after-effects. The museum, wary of appearing to take an anti-American stand, invites its visitors to write their own comments on cards. The radical next to me scrawled on his card, "Tell it like it is!"

Up on Level Two, a huge room recreates the hangar deck of a Second World War aircraft carrier, and Spitfires, Zeros and other fighter planes are lined up next door. An American family was trying its luck on a simulator, attempting to land a fighter plane on the deck in heavy seas. A young boy went first only to receive the verdict "crashed and burnt". His mother said, "Let grandpa try," and up stepped an obvious former US Navy pilot type. He crashed and burnt in similar style. "Aww heck," said grandpa.

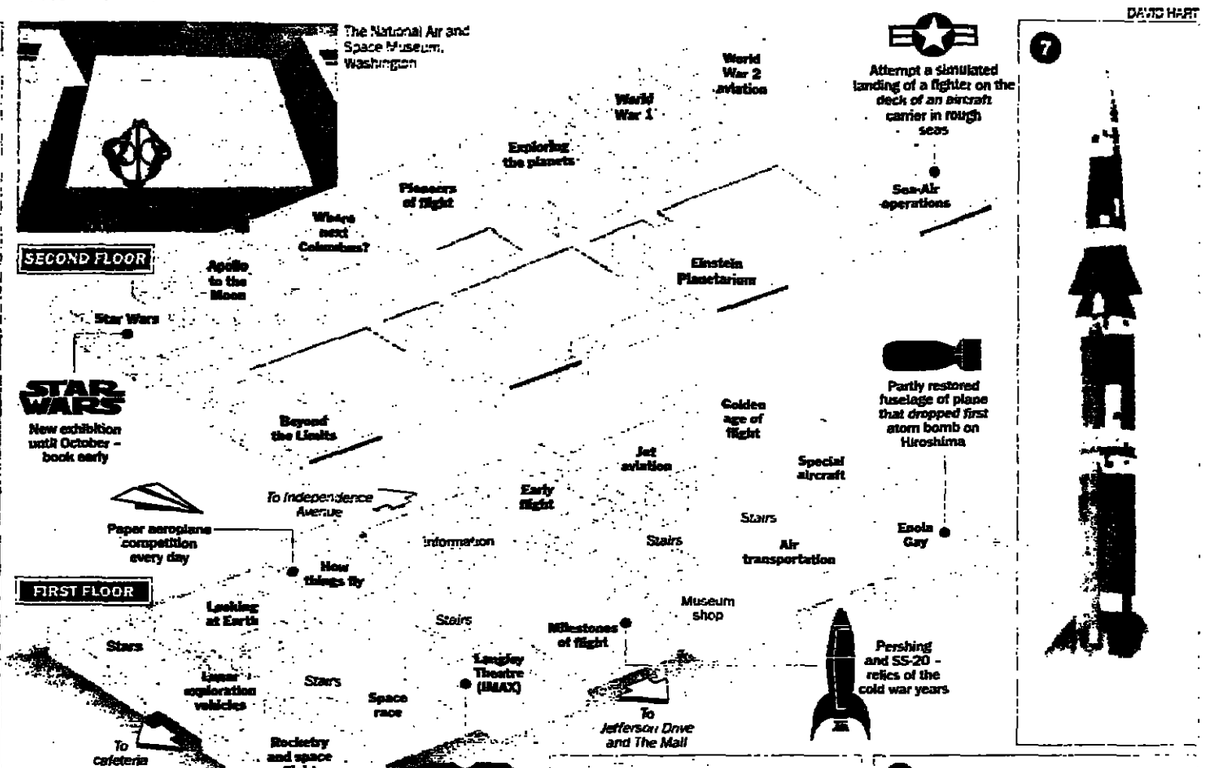
Time for a visit to the IMAX theatre, with its gigantic screen — five storeys high and seven wide — showing the museum's most popular film, *To Fly*. We screamed over the desert with the acrobatic Blue Angels (the American version of our Red Arrows), went hang-gliding over terrifying cliffs in Hawaii, and finally blasted into space atop a Saturn rocket.

Anyone who is even mildly afflicted by vertigo had better give this movie a miss. I emerged half an hour later feeling shaken, stirred and badly in need of somewhere to recover. "Peace and quiet in this museum?" said a guide, grinning. "Not possible."

He was wrong, as it turned out. I managed to spend a happy half-hour in the projection room of the Early Flight exhibit, watching flickering black-and-white images of moustachioed men gallantly taking to the air (and usually crash-landing a few moments later) on a series of Heath Robinson-type flying machines.

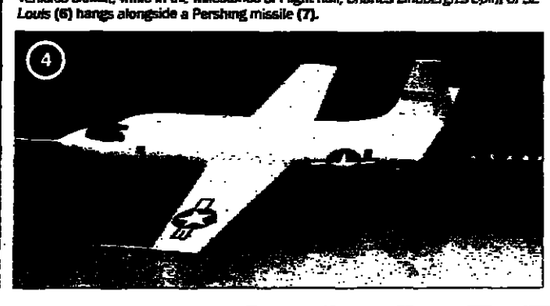
Then it was back into the fray for a final look around. So enormous is the museum's collection that I was stunned to find I had overlooked the Wright Brothers' 1903 Flyer, and the bright yellow Bell X-1 in which Chuck Yeager broke the sound barrier in 1947. But what I was really after was something on a smaller scale. Unable to resist, I stood in the queue for a return visit to that small chip of dark green rock near the entrance.

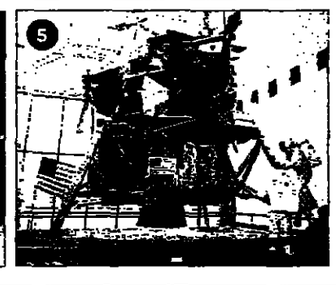
The child in front of me put it in suitably awe-struck terms: "Hey mom — I've just touched the moon!"




A DC-3 commercial aircraft (1) dominates the air transportation hall, while (2) in an earlier aviation age, the Wright Brothers' Flyer made the first recorded flight in 1903. The plane hangs in the Milestones of Flight area, as does the Friendship 7 command module (3) and the Bell X-1 *Glamorous Glennis* (4), the plane famous for making the first supersonic flight. The Apollo lunar module (5) is found in the lunar exploration vehicles exhibit, while in the Milestones of Flight hall, Charles Lindbergh's *Spirit of St. Louis* (6) hangs alongside a Pershing missile (7).







■ What to see if you are in a hurry: *Apollo 11* and the Apollo to the Moon display; the *Spirit of St Louis*; Skylab; the Jet Aviation exhibit; the Moon Rock.

■ Hidden gems: Where Next, Columbus? for a philosophical overview; the Early Flight display, which houses wonderful contraptions from the days when flying was still considered a sport for gentlemen. The innocent tone contrasts nicely with the high-tech marvels elsewhere.

■ Worth missing out: Flight enters the Computer Age — too technical and complicated for most non-nerds.

■ Survival guide: you cannot avoid the crowds, but the museum's size means you are unlikely to feel cramped. Start on Level Two for a better sense of perspective on the huge exhibits below. When you arrive buy IMAX and Planetarium tickets (£3.25 adult, £2.50 child) for screenings later in the day, to avoid further queueing.

■ Tours and information: free 90-minute guided tours start daily at 10.15am and 1pm, with others according to demand. Interactive Audio Tours can be rented at the main entrance for £3.25 (£2.20 for additional headset). These are at-

## HOW TO TRAVEL THROUGH AIR AND SPACE

*mospheric and include* Chuck Yeager's thrilling description of breaking the sound barrier, but limit you to a set running order. Free museum plans are available from the information booths, staffed by helpful volunteers. Exhibition rooms are clearly marked.

■ Recovery zones: there are plenty of public benches, or you can pop into one of the small projection rooms and chill out in the semi-darkness. There are public toilets on both levels, and drinking fountains on Level Two.

■ Food and drink: stick to the museum, as most other options are too far away. The Wright Place (11.30am-3pm) restaurant has steaks at £6, "B52na" (geddit?) sandwiches at £4. Children's menu £1.80. The Flight Line Cafeteria (open till 5pm) is self-service with sandwiches and pizzas for about £2 (child portions available), more substantial dishes for around £3. Coffee 70p, Pepsi 95p. Beer and wine are also available.

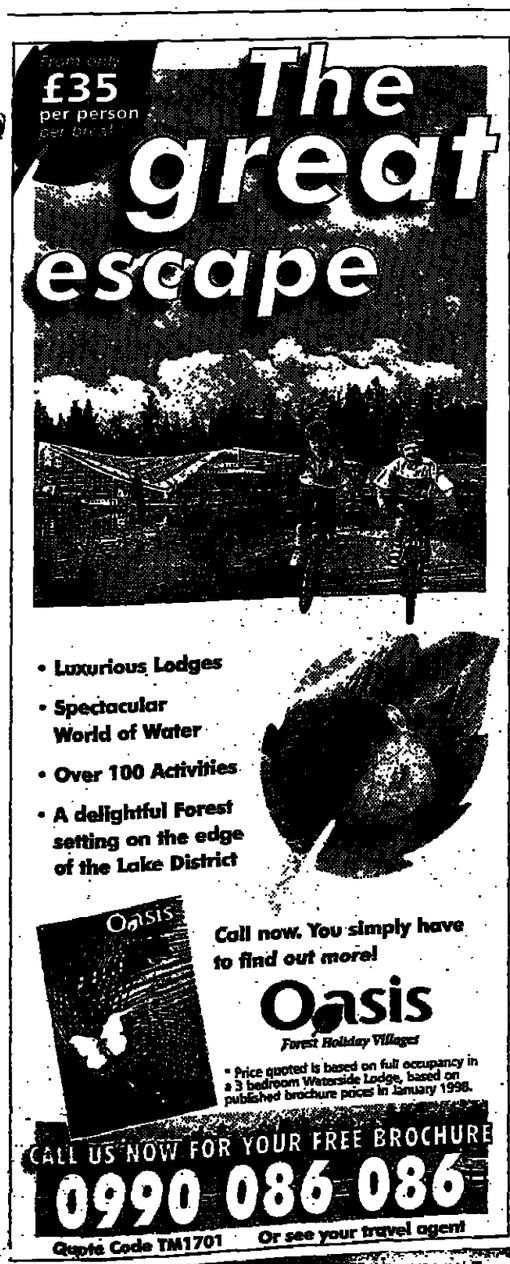
■ Souvenirs and guidebooks: the Museum Shop has a range of model airplane and rocket kits, and some good specialist books. The so-called new edition of the *Official Museum Guide* (£3.20) is four years old and has several omissions.

■ Now on: the Star Wars exhibition, on until October, is proving to be quite a crowd-puller, so advance booking (see below) is advisable at weekends and during school holidays.

■ Essential information: The National Air and Space Museum, 6th Street and Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20560 (001 202 357 2700); advance booking 001 800 529 2440; Web site: *http://www.si.edu*. Admission free. Open 10am-5.30pm daily. Disabled access is excellent with free wheelchairs, ramps, special tours and other services. Phone ahead if special assistance is required.

■ Getting there: Paul Mansfield travelled *with United Vacations* (0181-313 0999). Until March 31, United Vacations has two-night breaks in Washington from £365-per person including free connecting flight to Heathrow from Glasgow, Edinburgh, Leeds Bradford, Teesside and Belfast airports.
United Airlines (0845 844 4777) operates year-round, twice-daily, non-stop flights from Heathrow to Washington with an additional third daily flight during the summer. An Apex return costs from £315, plus airport taxes.
Paul Mansfield stayed at the Jefferson Hotel, a member of Small Luxury Hotels (0800 964470). Double rooms from £150.

■ Further information: send £1.50 (stamps, postal order or cheque to cover p&p) to: Destination Washington DC, 375 Upper Richmond Road West, London SW14 7NX (0181-392 9187).


- Luxurious Lodges
- Spectacular World of Water
- Over 100 Activities
- A delightful Forest setting on the edge of the Lake District






Call now. You simply have to find out more!

Oasis
Forest Holiday Villages

* Price quoted is based on full occupancy in a 3 bedroom Waterside Lodge, based on published brochure prices in January 1998.

CALL US NOW FOR YOUR FREE BROCHURE
0990 086 086
Quote Code TM1701 Or see your travel agent

The Silk Road
In the footsteps of Marco Polo trace this legendary route across the remote and spectacular landscape of western China. 19 days from the Forbidden City to the bazaars of Kashgar, from the end of the Great Wall to the wastes of the Gobi and the heights of the Pamirs.
Select departures on 24 May, 30 Aug 1998
Prices from £2295

Paradise Found
20 days in the Middle Kingdom, through a world of gardens, canals, and water-borne villages to the Venice of the East - Suzhou - where philosophers and mandarins retired. Plus the splendours of the Forbidden City, the Terracotta Army, the sights of Shanghai and Hong Kong and a cruise through the magical mountains of Guilin.
Select departures on 12 Apr, 6 Sep, 4 Oct 1998
Prices from £1895

The Dragon's Crown
When you have viewed the splendours of the Great Wall and the Forbidden City and the savoured the delights of the Guilin and Hong Kong, retire to the timeless peace of Anhui. Far off the beaten track among the clouds of the Yellow Mountain and the lanes of ancient villages.
Select departures on 12 Apr, 6 Sep, 4 Oct 1998
Prices from £1750

A taste of the Orient as it's meant to be.

China Travel Service (UK) Ltd
CTS House, 7 Upper St Martins Lane, London WC2H 9DL.
Fax: 0171-836 3121
Email: CTS@ukcts.com

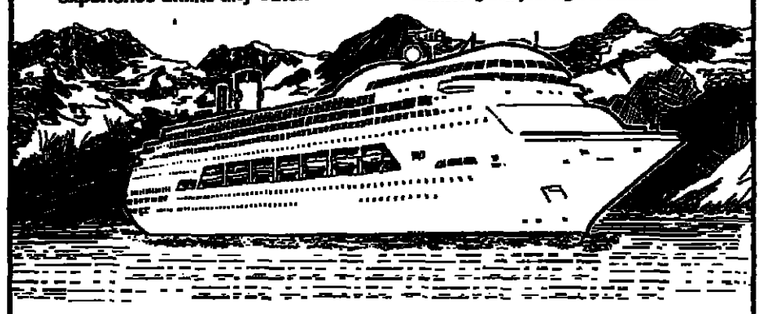
For tours of China, talk to the experts, we're at home in the Orient.
Book direct: 0171-836 9911

CTS Horizons
the connoisseur traveller's choice

Thomas Cook Offers
UP TO 30% OFF
ALASKA & THE ROCKIES
with PRINCESS CRUISES
May - September 1998 13 nights from £1611* per person

Book at Thomas Cook and enjoy huge savings of up to 30% off brochure prices on cruises to the scenic wonderland of Alaska. Unspoilt and untamed, Alaska and the Canadian Rockies promise a holiday experience unlike any other.

PRICE INCLUDES*:
* 5 night pre-cruise Heart of the Rockies Tour, staying at world class mountain hotels.
* 7 night cruise aboard P&O's luxury superliner Regal Princess visiting the scenic highlights, including a day's glacier cruising.
* Fly free from your local airport to London, connecting with your flight to Canada.



Quote Code TM1701
0990 777 666
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

This offer is for a limited period only, so don't delay. Hurry down to your Thomas Cook shop now, book by phone quoting CR105 or see Teletext page 268.

Thomas Cook
The nice surprise is the prices

AT LEAST 15% OFF ALL OTHER P&O 1998 CRUISE HOLIDAYS

All offers are available for a limited period only, are not retrospective, may be withdrawn or altered without notice and are not combinable with any other offer. Offer applies to departures 04/98-09/98 on pre-cruise tours & Alaska cruises aboard Regal Princess only. *Price quoted is per person and includes a 10% Thomas Cook discount, a saving of double the relevant Princess Friendsaver discount and a further £300 saving. Prices quoted are based upon 2 adults sharing a K grade 2 booked inside cabin departing 8 or 12 May 1998. Discount is subject to each traveller purchasing Thomas Cook Recommended Insurance at the time of booking - typical premium £82.20 per person for 17 days cover. A handling charge of 9% applies to payments by credit/charge card up to a maximum of £90 per transaction. Others subject to the balance of the holiday being paid not later than 10 weeks before departure. Opens 10am - Fri 6am-6.30pm, Sat 8am-6pm & Sun 10am-4pm. To ensure quality customer service, calls to Thomas Cook Direct are recorded. The Thomas Cook Group Ltd, ABTA 20998 acting as agents for Princess Cruises Ltd ATOL 3053.

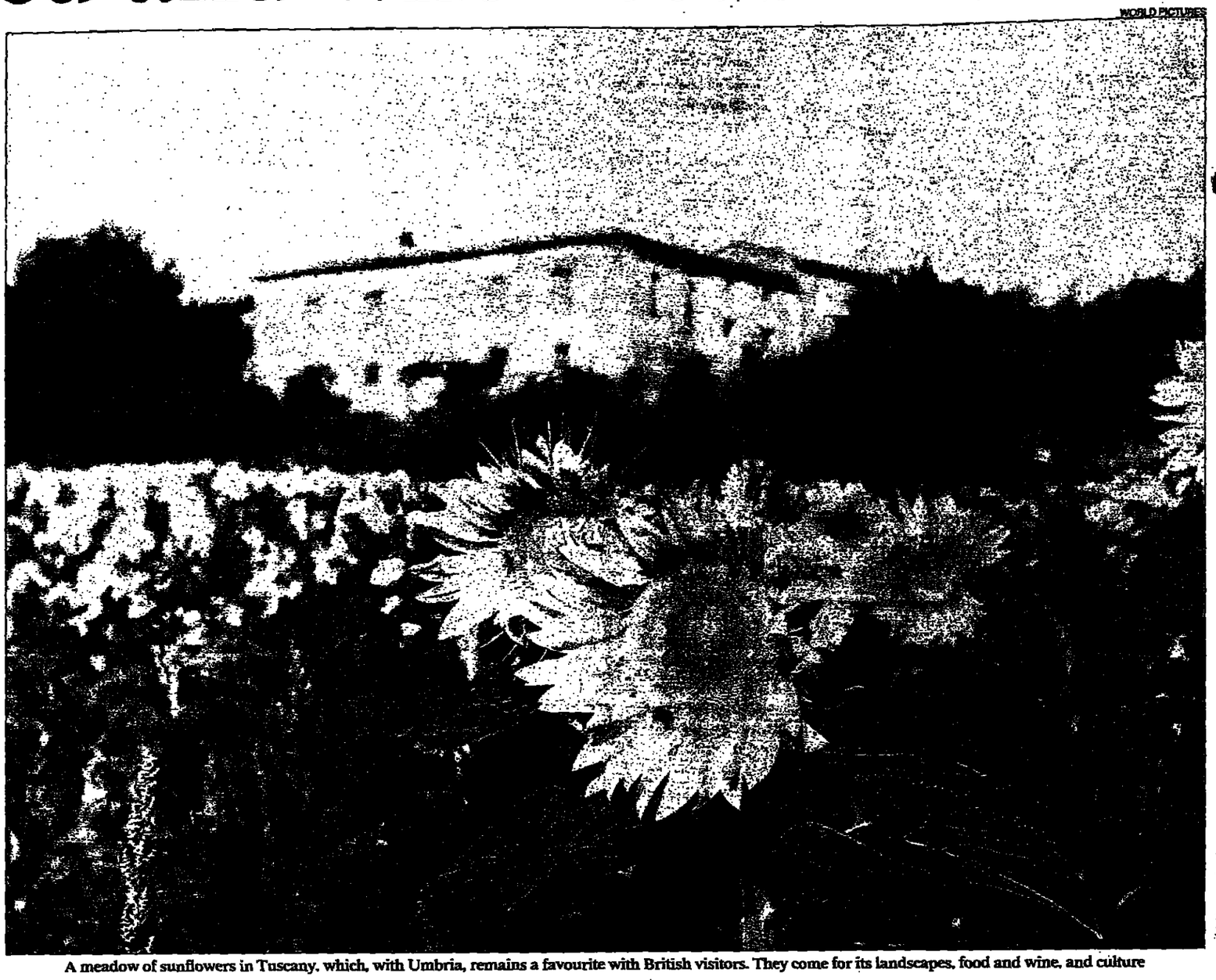
**SUMMER SUN 1998:** SELF-CATERING HOLIDAYS

# Med, bed and who needs board?



JILL CRAWSHAW

**SELF-CATERING means freedom, flexibility and food. You come and go as you please; tailor each day to suit your family and your inclination; and have the pleasure of buying and eating the fresh local produce that you find only in expensive delicatessens at home. You can stay in anything from a grand château with its own swimming pool to a converted farmhouse to a simple studio flat on a Greek island beach. This week and next, *The Times* will give a selection of what's on offer around the Mediterranean. On these pages, Jill Crawshaw guides us around Greece, Turkey and Croatia while, below, Steve Keenan offers the best of Italy. All prices quoted are for two weeks in early May and two peak weeks in August, per person, including flights, unless otherwise stated.**



WORLD PICTURES

A meadow of sunflowers in Tuscany, which, with Umbria, remains a favourite with British visitors. They come for its landscapes, food and wine, and culture

## ITALY

Chiantishire was a byword in the 1980s for the British holiday bastion that is the Tuscan countryside. But just when the Italian hillside region was at risk of becoming as passé as Peter Mayle's Provence, Tony Blair and family arrived last summer to endorse Tuscany as a perpetual class act.

Along with neighbouring Umbria, central Italy remains a habitual second home for British families and friends who seek solace in a good bottle of wine and a large plate of fresh pasta. Often far from the madding beaches, but within striking range of Florence, Siena and Arezzo, the two regions host most self-catering properties in Italy.

The other main villa and farmhouse portfolios are in the Venice hinterland, the Amalfi coast around Naples and Sorrento, the Lazio countryside behind Rome and the Italian islands of Sicily and Sardinia. Given the distances involved, most operators quote flight-based package prices with car hire. Several, however, will also offer accommodation-only prices.

A large number of self-catering holidays are based on one building split into several apartments and sharing a pool. While not ideal for a large group, what a couple lose in privacy they save on price.

Typical is the Oratorio property from Crystal (0181-390 5554), a farmhouse converted into six apartments with a large pool, only 30 minutes' drive from Florence. Two-bedroom prices for two weeks in early May are £456 based on four people sharing: in August it is £712. (For £9 a day, Crystal offers an upgrade on the basic — and very small — Fiat Punto to an open-topped Fiat Cabriolet on all Italian villa holidays in Tuscany and Umbria.)

Those staying at Fattoria Pagliarese with Citalia (0181-686 5533) will not be driving far. The wine-producing estate, which is family-run, has four apartments and a shared pool, with free wine on arrival and additional supplies for sale. In May, the largest four-bedroomed apartment costs £590; in August it is £752.

Both companies have added villas this year, while Italian Life (0113-281 8811) is a new 148-page programme featuring the main areas. Tuscany and Umbria take all but 20 pages, reflecting British tastes, with prices per property. While shared apartments dominate, dozens of townhouse or individual properties feature. Up to 15 people can share a farmhouse, with hayloft and own pool in Chianti, for £2,244 in May and £3,961 in August.

Many properties are to be found down long, unmade roads, discouraging too much tourism. A couple can hide away at San Biagio, near Arezzo, with Vacanze in Italia (01798 869426) using the caretaker's pool next door for £752 in May, £1,336 in August. These prices are per property including car, excluding flights.

International Chapters (0171-722 9560) has three self-catering brochures for Italy, which include the enormous Cuendet catalogue of farmhouses, villas, castles and apartments for hire throughout the country.

Its flagship Italian Chapters brochure is an outstanding collection of villas in Tuscany and Umbria, with a few in eight other areas of Italy. Al Carli, a farmhouse sleeping 12 near Lucca, was previously owned by the film director David Lean — and it can be yours for £2,990 in May, £5,750 in August.

New to the programme is a 19th-century house on Pantelleria, the southernmost island of Italy. It is situated off Sicily and known as the "Black Pearl" of the Mediterranean because of the colour of its volcanic rock. Sleeping nine in two buildings, the cost in May is £5,550 and in August a cool £7,550. Prices exclude flights and car but include maid service.

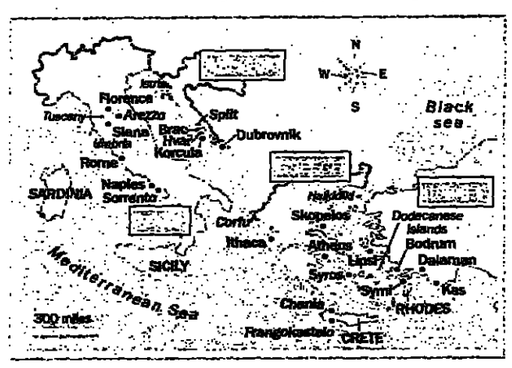
Southern Italy is the speciality of Long Travel (01694 722193) which offers both mountain and beach properties. The Italians themselves holiday here in August — join the melon and firework parties on the beach. Much of the self-catering in this region is practical rather than rustic and romantic. Staying in one of ten apartments at the Residence Trivento near Palinuro, a mile from the beach, also allows use of tennis courts and two pools for £300 in May and £595 in August — apartment only.

As holiday centres for the Milanese and Romans, Sicily and Sardinia are also packed with self-catering properties. Holiday Options (01444 881414) has several functional, hotel-type rooms at the Eucalipti apartments near Alghero, Sardinia, for £381 in May and £498 in August, excluding car rental.

More individual properties are available from Voyages Ilena (0171-924 4440), including the five-bedroomed Villa Valentina near Santa Teresa, complete with saltwater pool and near the beach. Priced per property, the villa costs £1,613 in July and £1,842 in August.

If you are looking for top-notch properties, Costa Smeralda Holidays (0171-493 8303) has a superb collection of villas on the northwest corner of Sardinia, developed by the Aga Khan and handy for yachties. The pick is the Collinetta, sleeping eight, with pool, fax and CD player, overlooking the Cala di Volpe bay. Prices per person start at £1,215 in May and rise to £1,780 in August, inclusive of car hire but excluding flights.

## TURKEY




With its markets — excellent for fruit, vegetables, yoghurt and honey — and abundance of cheap restaurants, Turkey should be ideal for self-catering holidays, but high-quality villas and apartments are still rare.

Nevertheless, Simply Turkey (0181-747 1011) has tracked down some properties — seaside cottages, luxury villas with pools, and Ottoman-style houses in agreeable and less-developed resorts such as Gumusluk, Yalikavak, Ortakent and Akyaka.

The company is taking advantage of the new airport at Bodrum, which mercifully bypasses the horrors of Dalaman, greatly reducing transfer times to the Bodrum peninsula. There, it is offering 200-year-old stone houses in the tiny hamlet of Gurece and other quiet locations.

The Sahin Villa in Gurece, built in traditional style but with all mod cons and a shared pool, costs £495 for four people sharing in May; £655 in August (including car hire).

In the once abandoned and now restored village of Ocakkoy in the hills, three miles from Fethiye, Simply Turkey's holiday village consists of self-catering cottages furnished with divans and kilims, and, dotted around the hillside, several properties adapted for wheelchairs.

There are two pools in the village and a restaurant, a free minibus service to the beach at Olu Deniz, and a weekly trip to Fethiye market. A studio cottage in the village costs £520 each for two people in May, £650 in August. Car hire is not necessary.

Further east on the ruggedly beautiful Lycian coast, Turkey specialist Savile Row Tours (0171-625 3001) offers several unusual cottages. In the unspoilt and endearingly haphazard resort of Kalkan, holidaymakers who want to feel part of the traditional Turkish community can stay in the Postman's House — still owned by Kalkan's postman — in the old town square, or in the Villa la Bohème, so named because the owner's son is an opera singer.

The houses are comfortable and full of rustic character with courtyards, beamed ceilings and wooden balconies — but Kalkan has only a small pebble beach.

A May fortnight at the Postman's House costs £499 for each of four, £599 in August.

In nearby Kas, Club Savile is one of the most luxurious self-catering developments in Turkey — apartments have TV and hi-fi, dishwasher and toiletries. There is an excellent restaurant on the site, with free shuttle to the town centre.

Prices include hampers, morning delivery of milk and bread, a weekly excursion to the Myra rock tombs and a yacht tour with picnic lunch. The May fortnight in the Pasha's House costs £649, in August £729, based on two sharing.

Tapestry Holidays (0181-742 0055), which also specialises in the less commercialised resorts, can offer apartment holidays on your own island — Sovaliye (Knight's Island), accessible by private boat service three times a day from the market town of Fethiye, 20 minutes away. There are small, sandy coves, one restaurant bar, and you can walk round the island in an hour. The one-bedroom apartments cost £399 for two weeks in May, £529 in August. They are not suitable for people with limited mobility.

Continued on page 29

The Bier Keller, Garmisch.

On the ninth schnapps, Franz the ski rep asks you to stay another week.

Annual travel insurance from WorldCover includes a full 21 days' ski insurance, both on and off piste. So you're covered for those unexpected manoeuvres.

WORLDCOVER

ONE CALL AND YOU'RE COVERED
0800 365 121
www.worldcover.com

The schnapps ad

The watersports holiday for all the family from £317 (pp, 1 wk, flights incl.)

Sunsail Beach Club Holidays 11 locations in Greece and Turkey. Free dinghy sailing, yachting, windsurfing and tennis. Great food and accommodation, brilliant kids' clubs, waterskiing plus lots more.

Call now (24 hrs) on:
01705 222 222
Fax 01705 219 827 http://www.sunsail.com
Email sales@sunsail.com
ABTA V4087 ATOL 997

Sunsail BEACH CLUBS

Rediscover Greece & Turkey

Discover the real Greece and Turkey with Sapphire. As part of the Sunsail Group, we've over 20 years' experience in arranging specialist Mediterranean holidays. Choose from our unique selection of small, owner-run hotels and apartments in beautiful, unspoilt locations. Call our reservations team now for detailed information and a brochure.

Freephone 0800 652 6520 24 HRS

http://www.sapphireholidays.co.uk
ABTA V4087 ATOL 997

Sapphire HOLIDAYS

World Offers.
Flight prices from:

Beijing £299 rtn

Frankfurt £139 rtn

Rome £145 rtn

TAXES INCLUDED

LATE STANDBY FARES

For thousands of World Offers call us now on:
0345 222111 Book by 28th January '98.

WORLD OFFERS
BRITISH AIRWAYS
The world's favourite airline

Fares are return from London and subject to availability. Travel periods may vary. Includes pre-paid taxes correct at time of going to press. Beijing – fare £279/tax £20, Frankfurt – fare £119/tax £20, Rome – fare £129/tax £16. For details see ITV Teletext p.380, your travel agent, British Airways Travel Shop or book and pay at our Web site www.british-airways.com

GUARDIAN, telephone 0171-278 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

هكذا من الأصل



## SUMMER SUN 1998: SELF-CATERING HOLIDAYS



PICTURES

Watching the world go by: café society on a Greek isle



PICTURES

The steep-sided harbour of Symi, a welcoming island mercifully free of high-rise hotels yet only a ferry-ride from the bustle of Rhodes

### SYMI FACT FILE

■ David Wadmore made his own holiday arrangements. The main UK operator for Symi is Laskarina Holidays (01629 822203), which offers villa and hotel accommodation. A four-person villa costs from £329-£469 per person for two weeks, including flights to Rhodes and transfers.

■ Laskarina prides itself on its green credentials; it helps with a variety of replanting, animal protection and building restoration projects on various islands, and gives each guest a cotton shopping bag to reduce the number of plastic bags in circulation.

■ Independent travellers: Symi, 40 miles north of Rhodes in the Dodecanese, is easily reached by hydrofoil from Kos or by ferry from Piraeus and Rhodes. Accommodation can be arranged through Sunnyland (0030 241 71320); Symi Tours (0030 241 71689) and Kalodoukas Holidays (0030 241 71077).

■ Information: *The Symi Visitor* costs Dr3,500 (about £8) for 12 monthly issues, starting in March for new subscribers. Cheques should be made payable to H. Tyler and sent to *The Visitor*, PO Box 65, Symi, 85600 Dodecanese, Greece. For details about *The Tritonian*, phone 0181-318 6163. Symi on the net: *http://www.symi-island.com* (in English).

■ When to go? Symi's beaches are small and shingly; the best times to go are May (for greener landscapes) and September (for warmer swimming); the island is congested in August.

# Easy does it on a timeless isle

**David Wadmore** drops in on some old friends in Symi, where a gentle pace and warm welcome bring visitors back year after year

Every Wednesday morning, Roula leaves her house early to avoid the traffic jams around Symi harbour. The 500-yard drive to the friendly bar on the harbourside where she works every day until past 11pm, often joined by her children and grandchildren, is hazardous. Perhaps a truck carrying suitcases, or holidaymakers blearily shuffling to the 7am ferry, will be in the way.

The narrow harbourside cannot take two-way traffic in many places, and until recently there were few cars on the island. The steep side-streets are like staircases, suitable only for pedestrians and donkeys. The car is an improvement, however, on Roula's former transport, a tricycle. Progress, if that's the right word, has come slowly to Symi.

The Wednesday ferry with the package tourists departs, the trucks and cars that transferred luggage from the high town, Chorio, to Yialos, the harbour, retreat to the backstreets, and peace descends for a few hours. A walking party of hardier visitors sets off up the Kali Strata (literally, Good Street), nearly 400 steep steps that were once the island's main thoroughfare. Now a road zigzags out of Yialos up to Chorio; its steep bends require adept gear changes, and the gutsy roar from motorbikes and trucks echoes across the harbour.

Towards noon, the ferry returns from Rhodes, crammed with day trippers. The harbourside restaurants fill, Roula's bar dispenses gallons of lager in mugs straight from the freezer, and Symi continues to earn its living.

People-watching is practically an Olympic sport on Symi. Get pole position at Elpitha's *kafenion* or Roula's and prepare to be entertained. This is the "every day *something different*" show. The Rhodents, as Rhodes visitors are called, swarm from the ferries in carnival chaos. Fashion-wise, it is a feast of overstuffed Lycra and Day-Glo slogans. Camcorders clamped to their faces, they perform a one-eyed volta around the water's edge, pausing only to check menus.

Symi is one of the most picturesque islands in the Dodecanese, if not in all of Greece. Rocky, with a few bays and pebble beaches, the steep-sided harbour of Symi Town, hung with Venetian-style houses, attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

The day-trippers are exhorted to buy honey, spices and what was once the wealth provider: sponges. At the turn of the century, when the sponge-diving industry was at its height, the island had 30,000 inhabitants and the wharfside warehouses were stacked with sponges. The Symiots were so skilled in building and sailing boats that under the Ottoman empire they received special status, trading privileges and lower taxes.

Now the caiques take trippers around the coast from shingly bay to bay. And spectacularly popular they are. The *Triton*, one of the friendliest, has a devoted set of followers who produce their own newsletter.

Eight miles long and five miles wide at its broadest, Symi has no beaches, no huge hotels, no grand ancient monuments and hardly any nightlife. So why does it attract so many visitors? Perhaps the main reason is that Rhodes is just a two-hour ferry hop away.

Symi is the antithesis of Rhodes. While Rhodes Town has excellent shopping (even a Marks & Spencer), Symi still manages to offer a glimpse of a bygone Greece, unaltered by the explosion of package tourism. A few steps off the main street you find the old way of life: tinworkers and carpenters tucked away in tiny workshops crammed between traditional bakers and *kafenions*.

Every corner seems to open a new vista; the steep steps that thread between the houses offer opportunities for camera-toting crowds and those who simply wish to stop and stare. A few steps, a couple of twists and turns, and you find yourself alone in quiet, corkscrewing corridors that lead from one discovery to the next.

To many, it feels like walking on the set of a favourite soap opera. More Ambridge than Albert Square, Symi has a timeless quality that allows visitors to pick up the plot year after year. Has Lefteris opened his new bar? Will that couple from South Wales be back for the 14th year? Has Hugo added another ouzo-powered walk to his itinerary of hikes? Is there cricket on Sesklia next Sunday?

Symi is a compact, sociable island. When the ferry boats have taken the day trippers back to the high-rise hotels of Rhodes, those who stay sink into their taverna seats, recline on their patios or drift idly around in a certain smugness. Another relaxed evening beckons.

Thanks to those trippers, there is plenty of choice for the evening meal venue. The bars are not crowded, the proprietors are pleased to see you, even at the end of a busy season.

Ian Murdoch of Laskarina Holidays, the biggest British tour operator to Symi, says that more than half his clients are repeat visitors. One stalwart has returned at least once a year for the past 18 years, and a huge network of Symi regulars stretches across Europe. The island even has its own website, and the town council issues a newsletter for tourists.

Aware that Symi must embrace, yet carefully manage, the increase in visitors, the council has taken an enlightened view of traffic management. Only essential vehicles are allowed in the harbour area between 10am and 3pm, and 7pm and midnight. Owners of the 1 per cent of motorbikes that contributed 99 per cent of the noise pollution have each been fined 50,000 drachmas (£105) — more than the value of their bikes.

This year the harbour is being rebuilt; the southern part of the quayside will be the commercial dock; the northern side for yachts and tourist boats. This will also reduce daytime traffic.

Despite the hordes of day trippers, Symi is a place where the details are important, and one visit is enough to make you feel that the island is your own. Your first arrival in Symi's harbour, usually at night, is a magical, theatrical moment as the steep sides of the harbour twinkle and rise around you. Your second arrival is even better — because among the crowds on the harbour are old friends waiting to greet you.

### SELF-CATERING TIPS

■ Avoid shocks: Find out what is included in the price; will you have to pay local taxes, cleaning charges, electricity or a whopping "security deposit" before you get the key?

■ Room to breathe: The divan in the sitting room/kitchen may convert smoothly into a double bed, but do you want to cook breakfast over the bodies of late sleepers? Too much togetherness can strain friendships.

■ "Fully equipped": This promise can mean satisfaction for one holidaymaker, deprivation for another. Are linen and towels provided? Ask for a full inventory.

■ Child-friendly? Is the accommodation equipped with baby paraphernalia — stair-guards, high chairs, cots? Do pools have enclosures, do gardens have gates?

■ Is the cupboard bare? Is an initial hamper supplied? Weekend flights tend to arrive inconveniently late for shopping.

■ Be prepared: Experienced self-caterers always take a can opener, sharp knife (not in hand luggage) and basic first-aid kit.

■ Out of season: How is your smart villa heated? Acres of marble strike a chilly note away from the peak season.

■ Demarcation rules: Maids will generally clean and make beds but won't do laundry or washing-up. They can also be tyrants — or invisible.

■ Help! To whom should you turn when the water heater turns into a flame-thrower? The agent, the local rep, the owner? Passing the buck can become an art-form, so be sure to establish this before you go.

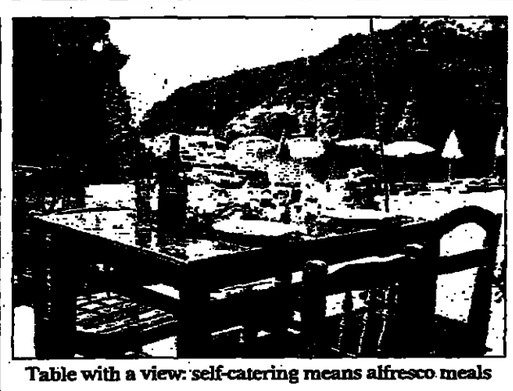


Table with a view: self-catering means alfresco meals

### CROATIA

Self-catering apartments and sandy beaches are equally rare in Croatia, so it is a surprise to find both on one of the most fascinating and sturdily independent of the country's thousand islands.

On Korcula, the Bon Repos apartments are well equipped, with pool, tennis courts, restaurants and supermarket on site, and of moderately high standard compared with their eastern Mediterranean equivalents. With Transun Travel (01865 798888), two weeks in May for four costs £329 per person; in August £409. Situated beside a shingle beach, the apartments are two miles from the sandy beach reached through vineyards at Lumbarda. Regular boat and bus services go from the Bon Repos to Marco Polo's birthplace, Korcula Town. Untouched during the civil war, this is a mini-fortress encircled by amber walls enclosing narrow alleys and hidden courtyards, Venetian mansions, old churches, markets, restaurants and treasures from precious icons to Tintorettos. Frequent ferry services make other islands and walled Dubrovnik easily accessible for day trips.

Croatia's most spectacular beach is the Golden Horn, a huge shingle spit at Bol on the pine-clad island of Brac. The simple Kaktus apartments at Supetar, Brac, where the ferry docks from Split and Hvar, and 40 minutes from the Golden Horn by regular bus, cost £269 for two weeks in May, £449 in August.

### OTHER OPERATORS INCLUDE

■ *GREECE: Amathus Holidays 0171-831 5050; Argo Holidays 0171-331 7098; Best of Greece 0171-255 2320; CV Travel 0171-581 0851; Hidden Greece 0181-766 7868; Manos Holidays 0171-216 8070; Odyssey Holidays 0181-343 9090; Simply Ionian 0181-995 1121; Sunvil Holidays 0181-568 4499; Travel à la Carte 01635 201140.*

■ *TURKEY: Ilios Travel 01403 259788; Metak 0171-935 6961; Sunquest 0171-499 9992; Tapestry 0181-742 0055.*

■ *CROATIA: Phoenix Tours 0345 626468; Thomson Holidays 0990 502555.*

■ *ITALY: Magic of Italy 0181-748 7575; Italian Escapades 0181-748 2661; Simply Tuscany & Umbria 0181-995 8277; Tourisme Verney 0171-495 6877.*

LATE STANDBY FARES

40% OFF SWAN HELLENIC FAR EASTERN CRUISES

24 Jan-10 Feb: THE SPICE ISLANDS
*Discover the temples at Borobudur, Komodo dragons and Bali. Close cruise Krakatau's volcano.*

8-24 Feb: EXPLORE INDIA WITH MARK TULLY
*Visit Calcutta, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Paradip for the temples at Bhubaneswar, on a cruise across the Bay of Bengal.*

23 Feb-11 Mar: THE COASTS OF INDIA
*Cruise from Calcutta to Bombay via Colombo, old Goa, picturesque Kandy and Madras for Mahabalipuram.*

*Fare includes all flights, accommodation, tours and tips.*

*For details of Standby Fares call*

0171 800 2200

ATOL 0307



*Land of* THE ICE BEAR

AN 8 DAY EXPEDITION CRUISE TO SPITSBERGEN

*9th to 17th July, 16th to 24th July & 23rd to 31st July 1998*

Few places remain in the world where you can be assured that nature in its purest form will provide highlight after unexpected highlight. The region beyond Norway's North Cape is without doubt such a wilderness.

This summer, you have the opportunity to join the *Professor Multanovsky* as she undertakes a series of 8 night cruises in July. You will encounter great concentrations of seabirds from kittiwakes to the diminutive little auks and rarities like ivory gulls; magnificent fjords, a tundra landscape miraculously dotted with wild flowers and a stunning scenery of sheer cliffs and vast glaciers.

We will visit areas of extraordinary remoteness and beauty, places enriched by highly unusual wildlife including reindeer, walrus, Arctic fox and most excitingly of all - polar bears.

Although we will set sail with a planned schedule, experience has shown us over the years that in order to achieve the most exciting expedition cruise, it may on occasion be advantageous to make changes to the itinerary, following a local reconnaissance, a change in the weather, ice conditions or perhaps a sighting of a polar bear or whale. Our 8 days in Spitsbergen will be much influenced by local conditions and because of our highly adaptable vessel and zodiacs we are able to offer a close-up, personal experience that simply is not possible aboard a large ship.

*PROFESSOR MULTANOVSKY*

Built in Finland for the former Sovier Union's programme of polar and oceanographic research, she has been refurbished for expeditionary travel. The *Multanovsky* is a comfortable and well equipped vessel, accommodating a maximum of 48 passengers.

All passenger accommodation has outside views and you can choose between a two berth cabin with shower and toilet or a two bedded cabin with shared facilities.

Public areas include a lounge/bar with library, single sitting dining room, clinic, sauna and an 'open' bridge where passengers are free to visit at most times.

The hearty and excellent meals are supervised by European staff.

Looking after the day to day programme on board will be the expedition leader and the team. There will be no formal entertainment, but the expedition team will organise briefings and illustrated talks. For our forays ashore we will use the vessel's Zodiac craft allowing us great flexibility.

ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Longyearbyen. Evening departure from Heathrow by Scandinavian Airlines flying via Oslo to Longyearbyen.
Day 2 Spitsbergen. Arrive after midnight and drive to the *Multanovsky*, embark and sail.
Days 3 to 8 Spitsbergen. Deep fjords, mountains and massive sheets of ice that cover much of the land. It is home to a wonderful assortment of wildlife; walrus, seal, reindeer, Arctic fox and polar bear. Only 600 miles from the North Pole, Spitsbergen has long been a base for Arctic hunters and North Pole explorers. Our days will be spent exploring the dramatic coastline, seeking out the wildlife and enjoying the birdlife and wildflowers that give vitality to the harsh beauty of the high Arctic. Our itinerary will be flexible to allow us to take advantage of the local conditions, but will include the territory from Isfjorden to Danskoya in the north, and time permitting we will explore the southern region around Hornsund.
Day 9 Longyearbyen to London. Disembark early for return flight to Heathrow via Oslo.

Prices per person range from £1475 sharing a three bedded cabin (with shared facilities) to £2095 for a suite.
Single cabins from £2185.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS

Please telephone 0171-409 0376
(7 days a week during office hours).

NOBLE CALEDONIA LIMITED

11 CHARLES STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON W1X 8LE
TELEPHONE 0171-409 0376 FACSIMILE 0171-409 0834
24 HOUR BROCHURE ANSWERPHONE 0171-355 1424
ATOL 3108 ABTA V3211X

AROUND THE WORLD A WEEKEND GUIDE

## TRAVEL TIPS by Jill Crawshaw

TRAVEL JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

# Independent holidays

HOLIDAYS for the wine buff and the truffle-hunter, the military historian, diver or whale-watcher; travelling by steam-train, rice-barge, horse-drawn sledge or llama; with accommodation in Italian palazzos, Himalayan teahouses, tents in the African bush or a French campsite — they are all in the *Holiday 1998 Directory*, published last week by AITO (Association of Independent Tour Operators) and available free from 0181-607 9080.

AITO consists of about 150 of the smaller specialist companies, many selling one country or type of holiday they know particularly well. Many are direct-sell and all are bonded for holidaymakers' financial protection. AITO companies tend to rate highly in customer satisfaction surveys.

However, if you are going to a popular Mediterranean resort, or to destinations such as Goa, Florida or the Dominican Republic, you will almost certainly buy more cheaply and as efficiently with a mainstream operator — many of whom have branched out from the tightly wrapped package. Thomson's Small and Friendly and A la Carte programmes could almost fit into the AITO portfolio. This week we have selected a few ideas from AITO members' new brochures.

## Call a caveman



THE Iberian programme of Mundi Color Holidays (0171-828 6021) now has an added touch of luxury. Northeast of Granada, holidaymakers can join the largest community of cave-dwellers in Europe on three-night breaks. Converted caves come with kitchens, bathrooms, television and telephones.

Near Guadix, the Cuevas Pedro Antonio de Alarcon have been turned into 19 self-catering apartments with restaurant, pool and children's play area. A three-night break with car hire and flights to Malaga costs £305. Mundi Color claims the Cueva Laveranda at Fuentenueva-Orce is one of the world's most beautiful caves. Carved out of the Basa-Huescar valley with views over the sierras, it costs £323 for three nights.

PHIL MASTERS



Easy riders: bikers in Germany enjoy the splendid scenery

## Real utopias

FEARFUL that all-inclusive tours will isolate holidaymakers from the reality of the countries they visit, Noel Josephides of Sunvil Travel (0181-568 4499) prefers to pioneer destinations that are not "sterilised utopias". Sunvil is the largest operator to the Azores, where the highlights are walking, wildflowers and whale-watching, with three of its islands — Sao Jorge, Graciosa and Santa Maria — not featured by any other UK operator. A week's B&B on Sao Jorge costs from £582-£776 (including flights).

Latest destination is Ecuador, the appeal lying in its landscapes of volcanoes and rainforests, old haciendas and local markets. Nine and 13-night fly-drive itineraries cost from £1,290-£1,629, which include flights, car hire and B&B accommodation.

**GERMANY, claims Moswin Tours (0116-271 9922), is one of Europe's most motorcycle-friendly countries. For a series of new three-night breaks, Moswin has chosen a scenic 650 to 720-mile route from Frankfurt am Main, following the Rhine and Mosel to Trier, returning through the hilly Eifel region — accompanied by a bilingual guide throughout. The cost is £430 for those with their own motorbikes, and includes ferry crossings and half-board accommodation in single rooms. If you need to hire a machine, a similar break with scheduled flights and bike rental costs £775.**

## French walks

LA PUISAYE is where the French author Sidonie Gabrielle Colette was born more than 120 years ago. It is a relatively undiscovered area between the Loire and Burgundy, and is offered for the first time by walking and cycling specialist Belle France (01797 223771).

A four-night half-board walking holiday along the towpaths of its 17th-century canal system, forestry tracks and country trails, staying in small two-star family hotels and averaging eight miles' easy walking each day, costs £287 on a self-drive basis, £427 by air or £438 by Eurostar in May and September, £20 more in August. Baggage is transported between the hotels.

## Bear necessities

NORTH American Highways (01902 851138) can arrange for bear enthusiasts to stay at Alaska's Karluk Lake Bear Sanctuary. This is where specialists go to see the giant Kodiak bear breed and feed. Accommodation is in simple log cabins where the guides live and share their knowledge with guests.

The tour operates from July 1 to September 15, and places at the sanctuary are limited. The cost for a two-day stay is £762 which includes round-trip flights from Anchorage to Kodiak, seaplane transfer to Karluk and all meals. The trip can be combined with other bear-watching and wildlife tours in Alaska and Canada, with flights from the UK.

The firm's leaflet *Inns, Wilderness Lodges, B&Bs and Properties of Character* lists independent accommodation where you can expect "a fund of local knowledge" from the owners. Average price is £70 per person per night.



TONY STONE

Religious pictures displayed in the old marketplace in Quito, Ecuador, which is included in Sunvil Travel's latest brochure

**IN Israel's 50th anniversary year, Superstar Holidays (0171-957 4300) is offering three-night Flying Visit weekends to Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, using El Al's new Friday morning departures from Heathrow. The breaks (on a room-only basis) cost from £230 in a three-star hotel, to about £350 for the King David Hotel in Jerusalem.**

## Pure porcelain

A SIX-DAY trip in August from Andante Travels (01980 610555), follows the development of porcelain, from its discovery by alchemist Johann Böttger in a Dresden prison cell in 1708 to the establishment of the first successful factory at Meissen. The tour costs £890.

On a seven-day tour of northern Spain in September, costing £820, Andante arranges permits for the Altamira Caves (normally closed to the public) with their prehistoric animal paintings. All tours are led by experts and include flights, accommodation and entry fees.

# Farce of duty-free loophole

BRITTANY Ferries plans to continue selling duty-free goods even if the traveller's perk is abolished next year as planned. The company believes that it can open for shopping once its ships are in international waters — 12 miles off Britain, six miles off France.

If correct, this threatens to make a mockery of the European Union plans to scrap duty and tax-free shopping within Europe from June 30, 1999.

Ian Carruthers, the managing director of Brittany Ferries, says: "We are calling the current state of affairs 'the chaos syndrome', because nobody actually knows what is going to happen in 1999."

The company, he says, would continue to operate onboard shopping on its four routes to France and one to Spain until legally required to stop. "Until it is proven otherwise, we believe we can sell in international waters," he says.

He is backed by the Duty-Free Confederation, which is spearheading an industry campaign to retain the system. Barry Goddard, the DFC secretary-general, says: "The EU's decision to ban duty-free was taken without any proper evaluation. It will be foolish in the extreme for it to go ahead."

Customs & Excise and the Treasury are aware of the loophole. A Customs spokesman says: "It is being discussed by the member states and, until a new system is agreed within the Community, we cannot give a definitive answer."

Airports and airlines have little leeway to exploit the loophole, with most flights within Europe always within the airspace of one or other country. But ferry companies operating across the Channel, through the Bay of Biscay, the Irish and North Seas are all likely to benefit from the bizarre rules.

The Dover-Calais route, which carries three-quarters of all travellers to France, would not be affected, because less than ten minutes of the crossing would be spent in international waters. But Brittany Ferries' shortest journey is the four-hour crossing from Poole to Cherbourg, a 78-mile trip, which would allow three hours for shopping in international waters; its longest journey is to Santander in northern Spain, a 24-hour journey. P&O Ferries operates to nearby Bilbao.

It is more likely, however, that the ferries will try to use the situation as a bargaining chip, because the process of selling on the high seas would reach farcical proportions. A crossing from Poole to Santander, for example, would entail UK duty and VAT to be paid within UK waters. Duty-free shopping with UK VAT would then apply in international waters, French duty and UK VAT within French waters and Spanish duty and UK VAT in Spanish waters. On the return leg, Spanish VAT would have to be applied to French duty when by-passing Brittany through French waters, because VAT must be paid based on the rates from which country the ship sails.

Brittany Ferries says that should the ban go ahead, it may raise prices over the next two years to compensate for the 15 per cent of revenue it earns from duty-frees.

STEVE KEENAN




☐ HOSEASONS (01502 501515) has a wide range of self-catering properties to rent. Barstobrick House, Castle Douglas, Dumfrieshire, has a billiard room with full-size table, two television sets and an Aga among its attractions. It is available from Saturday, January 24, for £55 per person for a week, based on 12 sharing. Lady Tower, a romantic apartment in Staffield Hall, Cumbria, with a four-poster bed and flowers and champagne on arrival, costs £102 per person. It is available from Monday, January 26.

☐ JANUARY sales are spectacular in New York. **Trailfinders (0171-937 5400) is offering direct flights to New York from Heathrow or Gatwick. Flights with Continental Airlines or Virgin Atlantic are £171 per person, including taxes; you must stay a Saturday night, and return within a month.**

☐ GOOD food, fine wines, opera and football: nobody does it with as much style as the Italians. Liaisons Abroad (0171-376 4020) has tickets for the AC Milan v Fiorentina match on Sunday, January 25, for £50. Opera lovers have the chance to see Donizetti's *Adelia* in Genoa on Tuesday, January 20, and Saturday, January 24. One night's B&B starts at £52 for a twin room.

☐ **IF YOU are looking for adventure, World Expeditions (0181-870 2600) offers a rafting trip on the Franklin River, Tasmania, one of the wildest stretches of water in the world. Nine days, including food, accommodation and equipment, cost £660 per person. Departs from Hobart on Friday January 23. World Expeditions can also arrange flights from Heathrow on Wednesday January 21, from £1,499 per person, including the trip.**

☐ REGAL Holidays (01353 778096) is offering seven nights' B&B at the Tropicana, Tivoli or Rosetta hotels in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, from £149 per person, leaving from Gatwick on Thursday, January 22; or seven nights' B&B at the Hilton Sport in Hurghada from £129 per person, leaving from Gatwick on Friday, January 23. Diving is optional, and starts at £100 for five days.

☐ SUNWORLD (0990 550440) **is offering 14 nights' half-board at a four-star hotel in Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, for £449 per person, including flights, departing from Gatwick on Friday, January 23. Accommodation to be allocated on arrival.**

☐ LUNN POLY offers return flights to Tenerife for ten days at £119 per person, departing from Birmingham on Tuesday. Also, to Alicante for 14 nights at £99 per person, departing from Gatwick on Tuesday, or £135 departing from Newcastle on Saturday, January 24. Book through Lunn Poly Holiday Shops.

☐ **THE INSTANT Kiwi World Buskers Festival (0839 300 900, premium rates) features clowns, acrobats, mimics and comedians and runs until January 24 in Christchurch, New Zealand. Austravel (0171-734 7755) offers travel and accommodation: for example, return flights to Christchurch leave this week from Heathrow or Gatwick from £745 per person; accommodation from £27 per person per night.**

JOANNA HUNTER

**FLYING VISITS**

Departures: Monday 19 January to Saturday January 24, 1998
Lowest available published fares for return travel

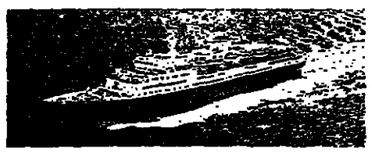
| Route | Promotional Fare | Flexible Fare |
|---|---|---|
| London – Athens | £177.50 (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) | £660.50* (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) |
| London – Berlin | £99 AB Airlines (ex Gatwick) | £398 AB Airlines (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) |
| Birmingham – Copenhagen | £99 BA | £300 BA |
| London – Dublin | £89 Aer Lingus (ex Stansted) | £109 Aer Lingus (ex Stansted) |
| London – Jersey | £59.50 (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) | from £108 BA (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) |
| Edinburgh – Munich | £97 BA | £638 BA |
| London – Oporto | £99 BA (ex Gatwick) | £456 BA (ex Gatwick) |
| London – Paris | £83 BM (ex Heathrow) | £238 BA (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) |
| London – Washington | £165 BA (ex Heathrow) | £506 BA (ex Heathrow) |
| London – Zurich | £183 BM (ex Heathrow) | £334 BA (ex Heathrow/Gatwick) |

Airline telephone numbers:
AB Airlines 0345 464748
British Airways (BA) 0345 222111
Aer Lingus 0181 899 4747
British Midland (BM) 0345 554554

Notes
* Prices shown in the left-hand column are the lowest available fares. Prices shown in the right-hand column are the lowest available flexible fares that do not require a Saturday night stay and which, in most cases, allow changes or cancellation without penalty. In all cases you are advised to check the restrictions if any, when booking.
* Availability is not guaranteed.
* Fares shown do not include any applicable taxes or security fees.

New MILLENNIUM holidays
AUSTRIA
10 day holidays with half board to Mayrhofen and the Ziller Valley
£129
Free car parking Phone 0121 705 4431

SPECIAL
SAVE UP TO £305 PER PERSON
CRUISE SAVERS
The best value, quality cruise in the Mediterranean



Cruise the elegant resorts of the Mediterranean aboard the Marco Polo from only £760* per person

Fly from Luton to join Marco Polo's Rome & the Rivieras cruise and save £150 per person with an additional 10% discount if you book 120 days before departure.

Choose one of seven departures for Summer 1998 and enjoy a two-night stay in Rome including a city sightseeing tour, a five-night cruise aboard the Marco Polo taking you to Florence or Pisa, Portofino, Cannes, Palma and Barcelona, with return scheduled flights from London Luton Airport.

'Best Cruise Value' For the past three years Orient Lines has been awarded 'Best Value Superior 4 star' by the World Ocean & Cruise Liner Society.

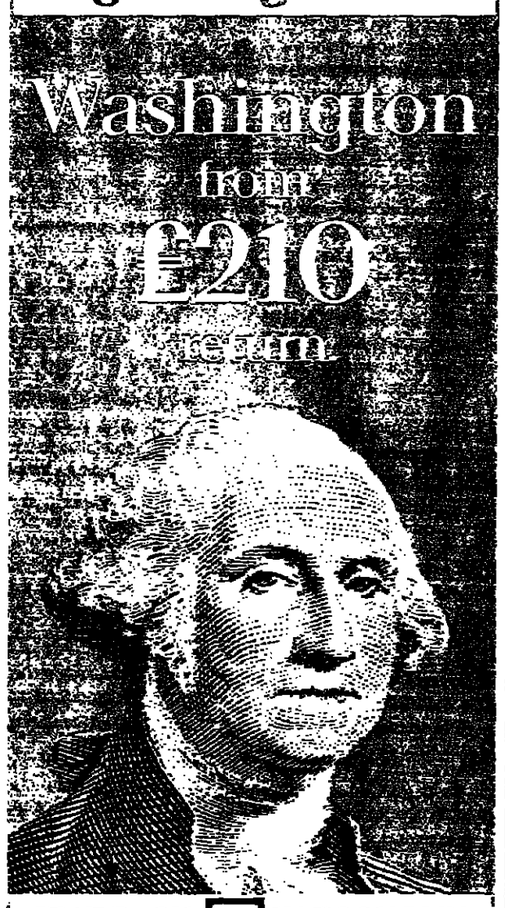
To book your cruise see your travel agent or call Orient Lines on 0171-409 2500.

ORIENT LINES
Quality cruises - Superb value

*Price based on 2 sharing car, K cabin & includes all taxes.
†Maximum discount based on two sharing a car, B cabin.

Call 01476 578747 for a brochure

Virgin MegaSavers.
Washington from £210



SEAT BACK TV IN ECONOMY.

For world beating offers, that include all taxes, call us by 28 January on 01293 747 245. Or contact your local travel agent.

virgin atlantic

Taxes are subject to change due to currency movement. Washington Low Offer Taxes £94.70. Book by 28 January 1998. Outbound travel by 31 March 1998. Limited availability. Other restrictions apply.

The Garden Isle of Madeira

7 nights of winter sunshine on the beautiful island of Madeira from £325 or for £10 per night supplement upgrade to the 5-star deluxe Savoy Hotel

Join us for a 7-night sojourn on the beautiful island of Madeira departing from London Gatwick and enjoy a week of relaxation or partake in a variety of interesting optional visits to tropical gardens and lovely houses. In addition we are able, for a small supplement, to offer a hotel upgrade to the 5-star Savoy Hotel, representing an excellent saving from tariffs that might be found elsewhere. If therefore you are looking for a balmy winter's break, then this is an offer that should not be missed.

THE HOTEL MADEIRA

This modern 3-star hotel is located within a short walking distance of all the principle attractions of Old Funchal and of numerous excellent restaurants. All rooms have balcony, telephone, bath and WC. Its roof terrace has a panoramic outlook over the town. The hotel has a dining room for breakfast only. On occasions, an alternative 3-star hotel will be used.

THE SAVOY HOTEL

With panoramic views of the mountains and sea the Savoy Hotel offers a high level of service. This hotel has 350 spacious and comfortable guest rooms all with air conditioning, a balcony, radio, colour television with satellite and minibar. The Savoy's other facilities include 2 saltwater swimming pools, three restaurants, a library and various shops.



DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES

Tuesdays - per person in twin
1998 - Feb 17, 24 £325 - Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 £325
April 7*, 14, 21, 28 £325 - May 5, 12, 19, 26 £325
Departures on Wednesdays (Jan 21-April 22) are also available
Single suppl. £195.00. *Easter - add £45.00
Upgrade to Savoy Hotel £70.00 (single £225)

Tariff includes: return flights, 7 nights' accommodation on a bed and breakfast basis at the hotel, UK departure tax. Not included: travel insurance, room meals, tips. All prices subject to change. Our current Conditions of Booking (available on request) shall apply to all reservations.

0171-616 1000

VOYAGES JULES VERNE
21 Dorset Square, London NW1 6QG
Travel Promotions Ltd. ABTA V1661 ATOL 883B
Internet http://www.vjv.co.uk

Our offices are open for telephone reservations weekdays 8am to 8pm and at weekends 9am to 5pm. For personal callers, our office hours are 9am to 5pm weekdays only.

Published by the Yorkshire Post Newspapers Ltd, Wellington House, Wellington Street, Leeds LS1 1RF. Telephone 0113 243 2700. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office

هكذا من الأصل



# Politics: it's just child's play really

**Martin Symington takes his young son and daughter on a revealing day out at the Houses of Parliament**

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Iona and Toby meet MP James Gray at Westminster



Future voters Toby and Iona are given the VIP treatment by Mr Gray before stepping inside the House of Commons. Question Time, they concluded, "was like a real live riot"

Iona, my eight-year-old daughter, had an unusual question for her teacher: was there anything she would like her to ask Tony Blair? Because next day she was going to Prime Minister's Question Time in Parliament, with her daddy and six-year-old brother Toby.

I had been trying to think of an educational treat for my children. The idea came a few weeks ago, as we watched the *Six O'Clock News* together. On came one of those "there were angry scenes in the Commons today as Tory leader William Hague accused the Prime Minister of ..." items. The children both took a keen interest in the general election campaign, but were not yet of fixed political conviction.

Iona's instincts tend towards the Monster Raving Loonies. To her, they seem more sensible than the hundreds of grey-looking men and sprinkling of red-suited women on the television screen, "baa-ing like millions of sheep" as she put it.

*It took just a phone call to* the office of our MP, James Gray (North Wiltshire) to arrange a tour of Parliament a few weeks later.

We cleared security to reach the gilt-vaulted central lobby of the Palace of Westminster, as a policeman's reverberating cry of "Hats off, strangers .... Speeeeeakaaaaaair" rang out. The milling crowds moved aside as Betty Boothroyd, in her Speaker's robes, processed to the Commons chamber, followed by an entourage dressed in black, bearing her train like funereal bridesmaids.

Tall, young-looking Mr Gray strode across the lobby to introduce himself, then squatted down to welcome the two young voters of the future. Mr Gray is one of that rare breed, the newly elected Tory, having been selected for a safe seat previously held by Richard Needham, who had retired.

Mr Gray had other constituents to meet, including a few tweed and Barbour-clad activists from the pro-hunting lobby, who were descending on Westminster in force that day. Still, he found time to take us out to the Thames-side House of Commons terrace and submit to an interview by Iona and Toby, who now realised that they could not personally put Mr Blair on the spot.

According to Iona's notebook, Mr Gray "doesn't want the single European money, because he likes pound coins with the Queen's head on them". He also "has lots of friends in the Labour Party, who are all nice chaps". (What about the 100-plus chap-esses, I wonder?) And he "voted for William Hague because he is good and he is young, and he is gusty (sic) and he is fresh".

*Our tour guide was* Keith Cameron, a House of Lords doorman. We started in the Royal Gallery, where he placed Toby on the spot from which President Clinton had recently made a speech.

In the House of Lords Robing Room, we were introduced to the Garter King of Arms; a gentleman in black tights and shoes with shiny buckles and a scarlet frock coat dripping with medals. Toby was impressed with the pair of swords swinging from his hips, though his request for a spot of fencing was turned down.

We were swept along by currents of history, through the Prince's Chamber, with its controversial statue of the young Queen Victoria and portraits of Henry VIII and his wives, to the fusty, red-benched opulence of the House of Lords Chamber.

Pausing at the Woolsack, Mr Cameron explained to the children how the prosperity of medieval Britain was founded on wool, hence the sack's significance. But with a wink he divulged: "Actually, it is stuffed with horse-hair as well now, because Lord Chancellor Hailsham was so heavy, he might have sunk into the wool never to be seen again."

After fish and chips in the terrace cafeteria, we made our way back towards the central lobby. Right past us walked John and Norma Major — he, curiously, carrying a suitcase. Moments later we had the misfortune to bump, literally, into Teresa Gorman as she scurried round a corner in a bright blue suit. I half-expected her to clock me with her handbag in indignation, but we both mumbled apologies and smiled politely.

At 2.30pm we took our seats in the House of Commons Strangers Gallery as the chamber filled up, while the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster made some dull statement about penalties for non-compliance with Citizen's Charter objectives. Iona spotted Mr Gray on the Opposition back benches, and pointed him out to Toby. "There, next to that man with a big head and black glasses." (It was Nicholas Soames.)

*Questions to the PM started.* From the gallery, we had a bird's-eye view over what looked like an animated model of the Millennium Dome, in the form of William Hague's pate, and of Blair's blow-dried brown quiff. The pair of them were soon away, hurling yah-boo insults at each other, while 600 grown men and women roared, bleated, snorted and pointed accusing fingers. "Order, order ... this house will come to order!" yelled Miss Boothroyd repeatedly.

Iona and Toby were astounded. The place seemed much smaller than on television "but like a real live riot", as one of them said later. All that huff about the dignity and solemnity of Parliament had come to this. Even nice Mr Gray was bellowing with the best of them as he leapt up and down like a yo-yo, trying to catch the Speaker's attention.

## YES, MINISTER

- Permits to tour the Palace of Westminster can only be arranged through a Member of Parliament.
- Many MPs meet their constituents before handing them over to an official guide. These tours take about an hour and cost £20 for up to 16 people. If there are just a few of you, your MP's secretary may be able to fit you in with another group. Alternatively, you can tour alone (with a permit) free of charge. If you do this, buy the official Houses of Parliament guide booklet from the bookshop at St Stephen's entrance (£2).
- Tours are generally conducted on Monday and Thursday mornings, and Friday afternoons while the House is sitting. However, there are many exceptions, and timing must be checked with your MP's secretary.
- During parliamentary sessions, the Speaker's procession takes place just before 2.30pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, and just before 9.30am on Wednesday and Friday.
- Tickets for the House of Commons Strangers Gallery to watch live debates are less easy to come by. Wednesday afternoon — Prime Minister's Question time — is the most difficult to get seats for, especially now that it is held only once a week. However, members' secretaries should be able to obtain tickets given a bit of notice, and sometimes even at the last minute.
- Arrange a tour by writing to your MP at the House of Commons, London SW1 0AA, or telephone 0171-219 3000, and ask for his or her secretary.
- The Symingtons travelled to London Paddington from their home in Chippenham, Wiltshire, on Great Western Trains (0345 484950).

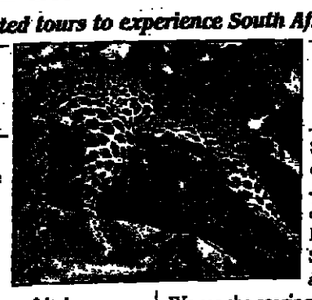

BOOK WITH CONFIDENCE
ABTA
The ABTA symbol on your tour operator's brochure means you can be confident that the descriptions of your travel arrangements have been compiled under the strict guidelines set by us. The same care and attention goes into checking every ABTA travel agent and tour operator's finances. For a leaflet on ABTA call 0171 637 2444.
LOOK BEFORE YOU BOOK ABTA

GOA
A gentle introduction to India.
14 nights HOLIDAY INN (BB)
High quality accommodation with good facilities in the unspoilt surroundings of Mabor Beach, South Goa.
20 Feb* – 20 Mar 98 £749
27 Mar & 10Apr 98 £678
(*21 Feb 98: Goa Carnival + £24)
Semak HOLIDAYS ATOL 0181 423 3000




A TRAVELPLANNERS PROMOTION
SOUTH AFRICAN EXPERIENCE
from £819 per person
A choice of two fabulous escorted tours to experience South Africa at its best

10 days from £819 per person
WESTERN CAPE DISCOVERY
Departures: Apr-Nov 1998
Enjoy a 10-day escorted tour through South Africa's scenic Western Cape. Time will be spent in the historic city of Cape Town with optional tours to the Cape Peninsular and winelands. We then head to the semi-arid lands of Oudtshoorn and on to the fascinating Cango Caves. Our journey continues to George where we take a fabulous journey by steam train to Knysna before returning to Cape Town along the picturesque coastal route. A 4-day optional tour to Kruger National Park is also available.
What's Included: ★ Return scheduled flights from London to Cape Town ★ UK and South African airport departure taxes ★ 7 nights accommodation on bed and continental breakfast basis ★ 2 lunches ★ Outeniqua Choo-Tjoe steam train ride ★ Visit to Ostrich Show Farm ★ Baggage handling at hotels ★ Services of a tour escort in South Africa ★ Transportation as per the itinerary ★ Hotel taxes



THE PRIDE OF SOUTH AFRICA
10 days from £929 per person
Departures: August 1998
Sample the wilder side of South Africa on our 10-day escorted tour. From Johannesburg we head eastwards and embark on a safari adventure in the famous Kruger National Park. We travel through Swaziland and on to Zululand to see the award-winning Hluhluwe Game Reserve. We see the soaring peaks of the Drakensberg Mountains and visit famous battle sites including Rorkes Drift seen in the film 'Zulu!' Our tour ends in Durban 'The Miami of the Indian Ocean'.
What's Included: ★ Scheduled flights from London to Johannesburg and return from Durban to London ★ UK and South African airport departure taxes ★ 7 nights accommodation ★ 7 continental breakfasts ★ 1 dinner ★ Baggage handling at hotels ★ Services of a tour escort in South Africa ★ Transportation as per the itinerary ★ Hotel taxes
Please return the coupon below to: Travelplanners, FREEPOST MB1949, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3BR
For more information please call 0990 280083
or fax your details to 0181 559 2853 (please quote tour name/code)
or alternatively return the coupon
Please send me the Travelplanners South African Experience Brochure
Mr/Mrs/Miss ____ Initial ____ Surname ____
Address ____
Postcode ____
Tour Code GSATI
TRAVELPLANNERS

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINEER
Canada
Marvel at the splendour of The Rocky Mountains on this exhilarating 14-night coach and rail tour organised by Saga, exclusively for people aged 50 and over. The highlight of your tour is the Rocky Mountaineer, one of the world's most spectacular rail journeys.



Included highlights
- Two day rail journey aboard the 'Rocky Mountaineer'.
- City sightseeing in Vancouver.
- Sno-coach ride on Columbia Icefield.
- Spectacular mountain drive along the Icefields Parkway.
- Tour of Banff National Park.
- Cable-car ride up Sulphur Mountain.
- Visits to Lake Louise, Athabasca Glacier and Sunwapta Falls.

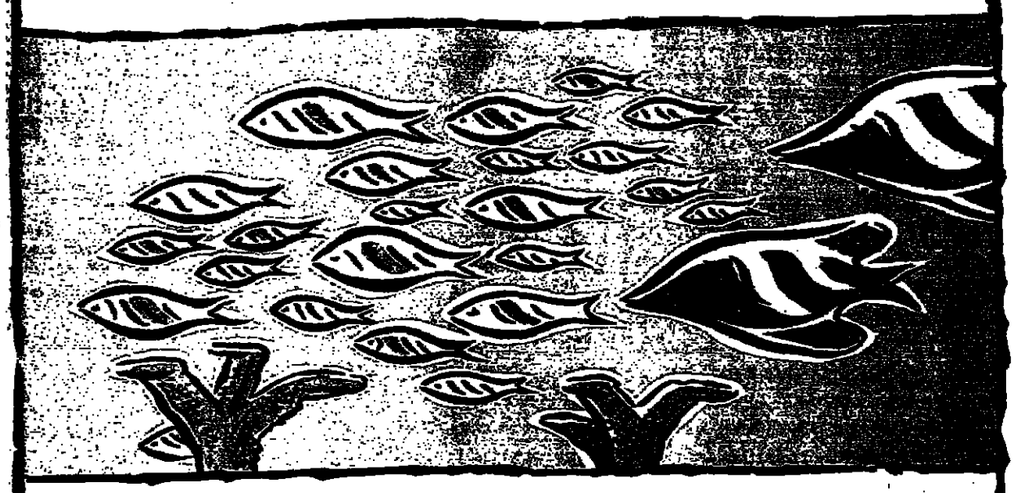


Dates available in April, May, June, August, September and October. Prices from £1599, including...
- Return international flights with airport taxes.
- All internal flights and tour travel.
- 13 nights' hotel accommodation, one night aboard aircraft.
- 13 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 7 dinners.
- Services of a Saga Tour Manager and local guides.
- Many excursions.
- Insurance and cancellation cover.

SAGA Surprisingly different
FREE 0800 50 55 60 Ref A761
This is not a brochure. We will send you full details on request, together with a booking form and our booking conditions to which this holiday is subject.
Saga Holidays Ltd, FREEPOST (FO49), Folkestone, Kent CT20 1BR

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

# Price is no longer a barrier to Australia's reef.



Certain aspects of Australia will leave you gaping in absolute wonder. Like the fact that Singapore Airlines can get you there and back for as little as £639.* For more information on this incredible offer, call Austravel, our Australian specialist. **£639***

AUSTRAVEL

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

## Australia

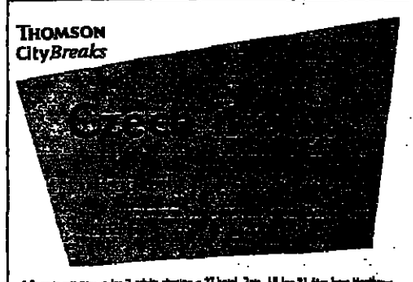
Austravel Shops: LONDON: 50-51 Conduit Street, W1R 9FB. Tel: 0171 734 7755. 152 Brompton Road, SW3 1HX. Tel: 0171 838 1011. 17 Blomfield Street, EC2M 7AJ. Tel: 0171 588 1516. BIRMINGHAM: 12 The Minories, Temple Court, Birmingham B4 6AF. Tel: 0121 200 1116. BOURNEMOUTH: 107 Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth BH1 1EP. Tel: 01202 311488. BRISTOL: 45 Colston Street, Bristol BS1 5AX. Tel: 0117 927 7425. LEEDS: 16-18 County Arcade, Victoria Quarter, Leeds LS1 6BN. Tel: 0113 244 8880. MANCHESTER: 3 Barton Arcade, Deansgate, Manchester M3 2BB. Tel: 0161 832 2445.

ATOL 4022 ABTA V6538

*Low season Fare to Perth; includes £20 UK Government Departure Tax and £14 Australian Departure Tax. Please check fares and applicable taxes for all destinations. Fares subject to availability; restrictions apply.

## CITY BREAKS

THOMSON CityBreaks



* Price is per person for 2 adults sharing a 2* hotel, 2 nts, 18 Jan-31 Mar from Heathrow. Holidays and offers are subject to availability. Excluding insurance. Thomson Tour Operations Ltd. ABTA V5126 AITOL 2524

## ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS

fun Activity Holidays for 6-15 year olds
For FREE colour brochure FREEFONE 0500 749147 www.pgl.co.uk

## CANARIES & MADEIRA

MADEIRA Space enclosed pvt apts, 2 bed, 2 bath, large balcony, pool, £276pw. 01255 816727

## CORSICA

Corsica
Superb choice of 20 Hotels and Apartments. Fly Drive, Car Tours. Direct Flights. Contact your agent or TOURISME VERNEY
0171 495 6877
FOR MEDITERRANEAN PEOPLE SINCE 1908

## EASTERN EUROPE

POLAND
10 Day Holiday with Half Board £129
To Zakopane in the Beautiful Tatra Mountains
New Millennium Holidays
Brochure: 0121 711 3299

## CARIBBEAN

AAAH CURAI Treasthouse colour brochure. Tel 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429

ANTIGUA Lux beach villa, pool, car, maid, incl. Fr £1,690pw. Tel/Fax: 0171 930 0835.

ANTIGUA Lux beach villa, Sleeps 6, Pool. Mid. 22 Oct-21 Nov £2,100. Tel:01444 454733

BARBADOS: West Coast poolside mod. house. Sleeps 8. For details Tel/Fax: 00 1 246 4262180 or 0121 3542420

BARBADOS SW, Charming hse on super beach. 3 chbs. Mkld. Avail 5/2 & 7/3/98 Tel: 01892 518901

BARBADOS Superb 1 bedroom apartment, poolside bar & rest., West Coast. 01902 595662

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS Beautiful tropolis beaches, intricately styled hotels, rests & villas, sailing/diving. Call the experts 01277 656111, ATOL 3951.

TOBAGO. Large family house in 20A acres. Pool, avail. secluded panoramic location. Sips 8/10. Tel: 01647 221308.

## CYPRUS

BEACH villa, flat & studio with pools, & coverage nr sea. Paphos & Pissouri area. 01428 608627

KYRENIA-the unspoilt part of Cyprus-village home, £78 wnts-£250 summer pw. Low cost of living, friendly people, all year weather all yr. 0171 931 7211

LIMASSOL Comfortable 1 & 2 bdrm flts 250m sea, all amenities. Deals:0181 6491864

N.CYPRUS Air con lux villa, beautiful views, 3 bedms. Small pool. 01536 200902/ 770222

N.CYPRUS Near Bellapais, Villa to rent. Lovely views. Tel/Fax:01483 764567

PISSOURI CYPRUS Lux A/C apt, slps 6+, private pool, nr golf course. Magnif view. All dates avail. Tel/Fax:01270 768416

PISSOURI 2 bed villa, 5 mins sea, o/look golf, patio, gdns, loc pool, tennis. 01243 780381

## CRUISE & SAIL ABROAD

CRUISING WITH A DIFFERENCE



The Norwegian Coastal voyage is a unique blend of cruising holiday, Midnight Sun, breathtaking natural splendour along Norway's coastline and cultural experiences all behind a working ship.

SCANDINAVIAN Travel Service
For a brochure ring:
01443 822 242

## FRANCE

AUVERGNE Lux farm house, own pool. Slps 13, lovely area. Nr Medi Cap. 2t bthrms/1 ens. £650-£1250pw. 0152 62 21291

INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS FRANCE
800 traditional French homes from £500 (per property) for two weeks self-catering, including sea crossing.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143681
QUOTE REF: F853



PIERRE & VACANCES
FRANCE en famille
The best in self drive, self catering family fun
- Great choice of friendly, fun filled holiday Villages
- The most popular areas - beach, coast or country
- Swimming, water sports, Children's Club, tennis, golf, mountain bikes, horseriding.

FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
01606 734 413
Pierre et Vacances, Freepost (CW646), PO Box 81, Middlewich CW10 0ZB

## Discovery & Adventure

Discover 12 enchanting French regions on foot or by bike, with your bags moved for you. Warm friendly hotels, fine regional food and wines, unexpected pleasures.

For a totally new kind of French experience, phone now for your 1998 colour brochure.

HEADWATER
01606 813336
ATOL 2412




## FOCUS ON TRAVEL ABROAD

AUSTRIAN apartments, hotels, city-breaks. Lakes & Mountains 01329 844405 AITO/ATOL

KIEV Breaks, Independent travel. Flights. INTERCHANGE 0181 681 3612. ATOL 2429.

## AIRPORT PARKING

HEATHROW £4.95 per day (no min stay). Free parking after 14 days. Max charge £69.50. (Up to 100 days) Secure Parking Ltd 0181 813 8130.

## CITY BREAKS

HOTEL accommodation - Paris, Amsterdam, Dublin, Madrid ovr. 4* to 5* from £29 pppn. All hotels in city centres. 3 nts for 2 nts offers. The Hotel Directory. 0181 770 0123

ST. PETERSBURG from £330 INTERCHANGE brochure 0181 681 3612 ATOL 2429

## CITY BREAKS

FRANCE & ITALY SPECIALS
FRANCE ITALY
Many City Breaks & Car Hire available Europe's 1998 Brochure out NOW! Please call
LUPUS TRAVEL LTD.
0171 385 3060
or
01892 553500

## AFRICA

CAPE TOWN Luxury villa. Sleeps up to 10. Fully equip. Nr beach. 01225 448388

TAILORMADE SAFARIS
ZIMBABWE, BOTSWANA, NAMIBIA, ZAMBIA, KENYA, TANZANIA & S. AFRICA
Luxurious remote lodges. Walking, canoeing, riding and vehicle safaris with the very best guides. Superb wildlife. Adventure with comfort. Call us to create your ideal safari.
Tel:(01604) 628879 Fax: 638679
66 Palmerston Rd, Northampton, NN1 5EX
AFRICA EXCLUSIVE

CAPE TOWN Paradise a/c chalet, slps 4/10. Game reserve, sea, sunsets, whales. 01344 773303

## BALEARICS

CALA D'OR Santanyi & Porto Petro, Mallorca. Beautiful countryside villas with private pools, apts & hols. Open 7 days. Club Cala d'Or Holidays 01908 200207 (24 hrs) ABTA W4434

CALA VINAS Luxury beachside apt, slps 5, large pool & terrace, SAE TV. Tel: 01490 460560.

MENORCA Attractive villas / farmhouses with private pools, apartments & hotels across the island. Open 7 days. Club Mercure Holidays on (01903) 234034 (24hrs) ABTA W4434

MENORCA Binibeca, owners delightful villa, splendid situation behind sandy beach, large pool and garden. Sleeps 6. Please phone: 0181 9508463.

POLLENSA Farm house, sleeps 22, 11 bedrooms, pool, tennis, croquet, piano. 0171 7370727

MENORCA. The unspoilt Island. Private villa with own pool. Tel: 01253 825812.

PUERTO POLLENSA & Cala San Vicente, Majorca. Beautiful countryside villas with private pools, apts & hols. Open 7 days. Club Pollensa Holidays 01908 280126 (24hrs) ABTA W4434X

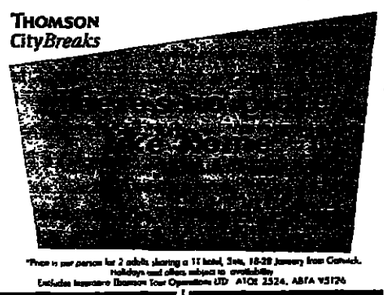
RURAL MAJORCA Stunning 17th C. house, comfortable & elegant, peaceful courtyard & terrace, s/pool(17m), pavilion, walled garden, chapel, fully modernised kitchen, slps 8. Tel (01665) 578274 Fax 578394

## CANARIES & MADEIRA

MADEIRA Seafront pvt apt 2bed 2bath slp 4 well equip pool fr £280pw Tel: 01372 465529.

## CITY BREAKS

THOMSON CityBreaks



*Price is per person for 2 adults sharing a 1* hotel, 3 nts, 18-28 January from Gatwick. Holidays and offers subject to availability. Excludes Inspirator. Thomson Tour Operations LTD ATOL 2524, ABTA V5126

## CORSICA

PRIVATE villa by beautiful beach nr Calvi. 2 bedms sleeps. Colour Brochure. 01243 828116.

VOYAGES ILENA - yes Corsica is wonderful - and we do have the widest choice of private villas, cottages and gardien hotels in lovely scenery. See our magnificent new brochure: 0800 783 9025 Atol/Aoil

The Corsican Specialist
Corsican Places
Lovely villas with pools, seaside cottages, medieval village houses. Carefully selected hotels. Very friendly personal service.
01494 460046
ATOL 2560 www.corsica.co.uk 07000 corsica AITO

## FRANCE

ALPS/ST GERVAIS. 3 bdr family apts in pic situation, slps 4-8. Sat TV/video. 01222 384441

A DESIGNER'S MILL House. Own private estate in Aveyron. Waterfalls, lakes, pool, 8/10sleep balcony 30' by 9'. Sleeps 6/8. From £275 pw. Brochure. Tel:00 33 565 256404

ALES/CORDES (Tarn) Lux farm hse, vines, Sunflowers. 20 acres. Pool. 3 bdms/3 bth. Fr £650 pw. Nr Medieval vill. Tennis. Golf. Tel/Fax: 0033 56 33 39 640.

## CITY BREAKS

Best choice. Best price. Best service.

PARIS – Eurostar and first two nights from £119pp. Extra nights from £15pp.

AMSTERDAM – Eurostar and first two nights from £141pp. Extra nights from £21pp.

ROME – Flight and first two nights from £199pp. Extra nights from £20pp.

BRUGES – Eurostar and first two nights from £131pp. Extra nights from £21pp.

BARCELONA – Flight and first two nights from £243pp. Extra nights from £22pp.

For city breaks worldwide call us on
0181 741 4443
or visit your travel agent
CITY Escapades
Quote Ref. TCS ATOL 2398 ABTA V5145
24 HOUR BROCHURE HOTLINE 0990 437 227

## CARIBBEAN




Tailor-made or all inclusive holidays to 3,4 & 5 star hotels/resorts from £399
Book with Confidence, Book with TBI leading specialist.
Tel 0181 891 2222

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

sunworld BEACH VILLAS
Choose from over 300 private villas in Majorca • Menorca • Costa Blanca • Ibiza • Crete • Rhodes • Cyprus • Turkey • Canaries • Florida
For a brochure or to book call
0990 58 58 58

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

# Enjoy the best of Europe

from only £89

Let us take you on a voyage of discovery, from the picturesque alpine scenery of Austria to the cosmopolitan delights of the French Riviera and beyond ...

Over 65 holidays by coach

Choose from our selection of short breaks or one and two week holidays to discover some of Europe's finest cities, or lakes and mountain scenery. New for '98 are the Island of Elba and the Harz Mountains plus two superb River cruising holidays as well as many of our old favourites.

... just a taste from the excellent collection of superb value for money holidays in our 1998 European brochure.



CALL NOW! 01709 839 839
QUOTING REFERENCE NO. EPN4
WEEKDAYS 8.30am-7.30pm SATURDAYS 9.00am-5.00pm • SUNDAYS 10.00am-4.00pm
Leger ABTA V3862
or clip and return the coupon
LEGER TRAVEL LTD., CANKLOW MEADOWS, ROTHERHAM S60 2XR.

PLEASE WISH ME DETAILS OF YOUR 1998 EUROPEAN HOLIDAYS
TIMES 1/17
NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE
Please tick if you do not wish to receive mail from carefully selected third parties.

## CHECK-IN

Avoid copycats
Fly the real thing!
01582 700093
London Luton to
Geneva
easyJet

## USA & CANADA

Ontario
A new adventure every day.

FOR A FREE HOLIDAY BROCHURE CALL 0800 850 670
or visit Ontario's website on http://www.ontario-canada.com

ONTARIO, THE IROQUOIS WORD meaning 'The Land of Shining Waters'. Hardly surprising, considering its 400,000 lakes. Only 7 ½ hours away every day, all year round with Air Canada – which operates more non-stop flights from the UK than any other carrier – Ontario is the ideal fly/drive Canadian destination with easy access to the beautiful forests, the spectacular shoreline and the magnificent canyons of the north.

Toronto has lots to offer, including fabulous night life, cuisine and more chic boutiques than you could shake a credit card at, while Ottawa, Canada's capital, not only has 13 museums and galleries but thrilling whitewater rafting nearby on the Ottawa River. Outdoor lovers will discover the Muskoka Lake District and canoeing in Algonquin Park not forgetting simply superb fishing in Northern Ontario.

Oh, and there's also Niagara Falls.

With all this – and more than $2 Canadian to the pound – why wait any longer?

AIR CANADA
ONTARIO CANADA

CANADA
Discover our true Nature.

# Qantas introduces the 6-Stop Ticket, £1053*

E.g. London - Bangkok - Singapore - Cairns - Auckland - Fiji - New York+ - London

With a Qantas Global Explorer Ticket you can fly to Australia or New Zealand via six different destinations in Asia, South Africa, North America, the South Pacific and Australia. All fares are valid on Qantas and British Airways flights. For more details call 0345 747 300.

* Includes all passenger taxes on this route. Valid 16/4/98 - 30/6/98. See your travel agent or call Qantas telesales for information on other seasonal prices. All fares subject to availability. +Fiji - New York operates via Los Angeles.

QANTAS
THE SPIRIT OF AUSTRALIA

...Office telephone 0151 546 2000 Saturday, January 17, 1998

هكذا من الأصل



CHECK-IN



Qantas introduces the 6-Stop Ticket, £1053*

AMERICANA
BEST CONCORDE OFFERS!!!

| | |
|---|---|
| NEW YORK | £1799 |
| TORONTO | £1998 |
| NEW YORK & TOBONTO | £1998 |
| TORONTO & VANCOUVER | £2498 |
| NEW YORK & BARBADOS | £2999 |

CONCORDE HOLIDAY SPECIALS!!!

| | |
|---|---|
| CONCORDE MONACO GRAND PRIX | £1599 |
| CONCORDE & ORIANA CRUISE | £1998 |
| CONCORDE NEW YEAR NEW YORK | £1998 |
| CONCORDE WORLD CUP FINAL | £1998 |
| CONCORDE & CHRISTMAS CRUISE | £2499 |
| CONCORDE & QE2 NEW YORK | £2998 |
| CONCORDE NEW YORK BARBADOS | £2998 |
| CONCORDE NEW YEAR'S EVE NEW YORK & BARBADOS | £2998 |
| CONCORDE EXTRAVAGANZA AROUND THE WORLD | £19,998 |

ALL NEW CONCORDE OFFERS ARE BASED ON ECONOMY CLASS OUT AND CONCORDE RETURN WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 PEOPLE TRAVELLING TOGETHER AND SUBJECT TO AMERICANA TERMS AND BOOKING CONDITIONS. ALL OFFERS ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS. AIRPORT TAXES INCLUDED.

MILLENIUM CELEBRATION
14 NIGHTS MILLENIUM NEW YEAR'S EVE FIJI CELEBRATION. NEW YEAR'S EVE CROSSING THE INTERNATIONAL DATELINE £4999

GO AMERICANA CONCORDE!!! 0171 637 8485

AMERICANA
BEST BUSINESS CLASS OFFERS!

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ACAPULCO | £1299 | FT LAUDERDALE | £1099 |
| ACCRA | £ 959 | FORT MYERS | £1139 |
| ADELAIDE | £1899 | FRANKFURT | £ 299 |
| AMMAN | £ 699 | FREEPORT | £1099 |
| ANCHORAGE | £1399 | GENEVA | £ 299 |
| ANTIGUA | £ 799 | GERONA | £ 999 |
| ATHENS | £ 399 | G.CAYMEN | £1299 |
| ATLANTA | £ 299 | GRENADA | £ 799 |
| AUCKLAND | £1899 | GUADJARA | £1399 |
| BAHRAIN | £ 799 | HALIFAX | £1299 |
| BALTIMORE | £ 999 | HAMBURG | £ 599 |
| BANGKOK | £ 799 | HANOVER | £ 299 |
| BARBADOS | £ 799 | HARARE | £ 899 |
| BARCELONA | £ 599 | HONG KONG | £ 799 |
| BEIJING | £ 999 | HONOLULU | £1599 |
| BERLIN | £ 599 | HOUSTON | £1299 |
| BERMUDA | £ 899 | ISTANBUL | £ 399 |
| BILBAO | £ 599 | JACKSVILLE | £1099 |
| BOLOGNA | £ 599 | JAKARTA | £ 899 |
| BOMBAY | £ 899 | JEDDAH | £ 799 |
| BORDEAUX | £ 599 | JOHANNESBURG | £ 799 |
| BOSTON | £ 899 | KATHMANDU | £ 999 |
| BRISBANE | £1899 | KINGSTON | £1199 |
| CALGARY | £1299 | KUWAIT | £ 799 |
| CAIRO | £ 599 | LAS VEGAS | £1199 |
| CALCUTTA | £ 799 | LISBON | £ 599 |
| CAPE TOWN | £ 799 | LUSAKA | £1099 |
| CAYMAN ISLANDS | £1299 | MADRAS | £ 799 |
| DALLAS FW | £1199 | LYON | £ 599 |
| DAMASCUS | £ 899 | MADRID | £ 599 |
| DAR ES SALAAM | £ 899 | MANILA | £ 999 |
| DENVER | £1599 | MARSEILLE | £ 599 |
| DAYTONA BEACH | £1199 | MAURITIUS | £1499 |
| DELHI | £ 899 | MELBOURNE | £1999 |
| DENVER | £1999 | MEXICO | £1299 |
| DETROIT | £ 999 | MIAMI | £1099 |
| DHAKA | £ 899 | MILAN | £ 599 |
| DUBAI | £ 999 | MINNEAPOLIS | £1099 |
| DURBAN | £ 799 | MYRTLE BEACH | £1299 |
| DUSSELDORF | £ 599 | MONTPELLIER | £ 599 |
| EDMONTON | £1299 | MONTREAL | £1299 |
| ENTEBBE | £ 899 | MUNICH | £ 599 |
| FIJI | £ 899 | NAIROBI | £ 899 |
| FLORIDA ETS | £1199 | NAPLES | £ 599 |

All Americana Boat Business Class Offers are based on Business Class Transatlantic Flights and Economy Internal Flights. Upgrade supplements to First Class flights are available. Boat Offers are subject to minimum of two people travelling together, Americana Terms and Booking Conditions, subject to availability and single supplement. Airport taxes included.

GO AMERICANA BUSINESS CLASS 0171 637 8485

BUSINESS & FIRST CLASS

| | BUSINESS CLASS | FIRST CLASS |
|---|---|---|
| NEW YORK | £ 799 | £1199 |
| CHICAGO | £ 899 | £1399 |
| TORONTO | £ 899 | £1399 |
| LOS ANGELES | £1099 | £1799 |
| SAN FRANCISCO | £1099 | £1799 |

GO AMERICANA EXECUTIVE CLASS 0171 637 4107

FLY CONCORDE • FIRST • BUSINESS • PREMIER • ECONOMY CLASS TO OVER 100 WORLD DESTINATIONS. SAVE UP TO 50% ON AMERICANA'S DISCOUNT AIRLINES HOTELS & CAR RENTALS

BOOK YOUR VACATIONS WITH AMERICANA!!! 0171 637 7853

Specialists in Value-made vacations to: USA • CANADA • MEXICO • HAWAII • CARIBBEAN • EUROPE • MIDDLE EAST • AFRICA • ORIENT • AUSTRALASIA

All fares Ticket can return from London (regional fares may vary) Americana Vacations Plc ABTA D5505 acting as agents for ATOL holders.

Email: bestsellers@americana.demon.co.uk

AMERICANA VACATIONS PLC
11 Little Portland St. London W1N 5DF

FOR BEST BUSINESS CLASS OFFERS CALL US NOW!!!

| OUR FARES | BUSINESS CLASS OFFERS | FIRST CLASS OFFERS |
|---|---|---|
| | 0171 836 3055 | 0171 637 8485 |
| INCLUDE: | PREMIER AND FIRST CLASS OFFERS | ECONOMY CLASS OFFERS |
| | 0171 637 4107 | 0171 637 7853 |

ROUND THE WORLD FOR £649

LONDON WEST END 0171 734 7755
KNIGHTSBRIDGE 0171 838 1011
CITY 0171 588 1516
BIRMINGHAM 0121 200 1116
BOURNEMOUTH 01202 311488
BRISTOL 0117 927 7425
LEEDS 0113 244 8880
MANCHESTER 0161 832 2445

AMAZING OFFER
UK-Sydney-Los Angeles-UK
- Depart before 30 April on Britannia Airways or Airtours. Return up to 31 May on a top quality scheduled airline.
- Regular flights from London Gatwick and Manchester.

AUSTRAVEL
50 Conduit Street, London W1

Offers subject to availability. ABTA C1864, ATOL 4022/Airtrek Ltd 1852.

FIJI

Over 300 idyllic islands in the South Pacific. Accommodation options from world-class resorts, to smaller, getaway isles. Crystal clear seas, palm-fringed beaches, fabulous food and South Seas hospitality make Fiji a very special holiday.

including New Zealand

Restore body and soul – get as far away from it all as you possibly can, this time tomorrow you could be there. Flights to Christchurch, Wellington or Auckland with: virgin atlantic / AIR PACIFIC

A brilliant opportunity to enjoy a South Sea holiday and see New Zealand.

Save £75 OFF the air fare if you visit Fiji only. Offer subject to booking a minimum stay of 5 nights accommodation with us in Fiji. For example, spend at least 5 nights with us at Naviti Beach Resort on the Coral Coast. From only £748 per person, first class accommodation, twin share (excluding transfers). Or take a tour or cruise, of at least 5 nights accommodation and SAVE!!

SAVE! £75 OFF YOUR FARE

HIGH SEASON SEE BOTH FROM £752
DEPT 6 JAN - 25 MAR 98 • 15 - 30 APRIL 98

£772
DEPT 11 NOV - 10 DEC 98 • 25 - 31 DECEMBER 98
RETURN LOW FARES
BOOK AND PAY BEFORE 31 MAR 98

01420-88724 or 0171-287 5556

TRAVELBAG™

Economy Transatlantic flight only. Air fares include pre-paid taxes, locally paid taxes may apply

OPEN 7 DAYS 9am-9pm Mon-Fri 9am-7pm Sat 9am-5pm Sun

12 High Street, Alton, Hants, GU34 1BN
or
52 Regent Street, London, W1R 6DX
FAX: 01420-82133 or 0171-287 4522

All fares subject to availability. Restrictions apply, ask for details.

All fares subject to availability. Restrictions may apply, ask for details.

USA Canada

MULTI STATE DEALS!

Continental Airlines

FARES FROM £179 RETURN

Our speciality is multi-state trips blending cities, towns, beaches and activities.

Getting there
London > New York > Los Angeles > London ..... £359
London > New Orleans > Washington > London .. £359
London > Toronto > New York > Lagos ..... £367

Getting around
Motorhomes from ..... £201 per week inclusive
Special offer from Jan-Mar '98 2 weeks for the price of 1
Car hire from ..... £5 per day (excludes insurances and taxes)
Conditions apply, ask for details.

£610

Coach Tours ..... £276
Save £££'s on a 13 night 'Canadian Contrast' tour: - Toronto-Vancouver from £618.
Prices are per person, based on 2 people share, excluding flights & Departure taxes.

Accommodation
Hotels from ..... £14 per person/night Twin share
Villas from ..... £8 per person/night (6 people sharing with pool access)
All grades of Hotels/motels available

Choose how you travel and where you stay - Tailormake your very own holiday.

Call NOW for more information.

01420-88380 or 0171-287 5559

TRAVELBAG™
OFFICIALLY APPOINTED Continental Airlines AGENT

OPEN 7 DAYS 9am-9pm Mon-Fri 9am-7pm Sat 9am-5pm Sun

12 High Street, Alton, Hants, GU34 1BN
or
52 Regent Street, London, W1R 6DX
FAX: 01420-82133 or 0171-287 4522

All fares subject to availability. Restrictions apply, ask for details.

Air fares include pre-paid taxes, locally paid taxes may apply

FLIGHTBOOKERS
travelling freestyle
ABTA D0808/V8800 ATOL 2562 IATA

WE WILL NOT BE BEATEN ON PRICE OR SERVICE

OPEN 7 DAYS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| New York | £169 | | |
| Boston | £169 | | |
| Los Angeles | £220 | | |
| S Francisco | £220 | Sydney | £602 |
| Denver | £273 | Auckland | £619 |
| Delhi | £190 | Singapore | £374 |
| Chicago | £224 | Hong Kong | £351 |
| Washington | £180 | Bangkok | £340 |
| Atlanta | £206 | Jakarta | £374 |
| Las Vegas | £256 | Harare | £485 |
| Toronto | £236 | India | £357 |
| Vancouver | £307 | Dubai | £313 |

FLORIDA fr £220

5 MORE REASONS TO BOOK WITH US
✓Hotels
✓Car Hire
✓Travel Insurance
✓Stopover Packages
✓Tours

| AMERICAS & CANADA | AUSTRALIA & NZ | WORLDWIDE | FLORIDA |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0171 757 2000 | 0171 757 2468 | 0171 757 2444 | 0171 757 2222 |

Includes all pre-paid taxes

Gatwick Branch: 01293 566300 Glasgow branch: 0141 204 1919

AIRLINE NETWORK

The National Sales Centre for over 100 leading scheduled airlines, with 300,000 discount fares to 1,000 destinations.

USA & WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS
017 72 72 72 72
AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND
01772 727 727
BUSINESS & FIRST CLASS 01772 727 747
ROUND THE WORLD 01772 727 222
HOTELS & TAILORMADE 01772 727 757
EUROPEAN FLIGHTS 0990 423 423

OPEN 9am-9pm 7 days a week
SEE ITV Teletext P.275
*Mon-Thurs at 2 bar travelling

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BOSTON | rtn £ | £128 | DUBAI | £335 |
| NEW YORK | | £178 | MEXICO CITY | £331 |
| WASHINGTON | | £188 | CALGARY | £333 |
| DETROIT | | £196 | INDIA | £362 |
| DALLAS | | £206 | SOUTH AFRICA | £389 |
| ATLANTA | | £214 | BANGKOK | £399 |
| FLORIDA | | £229 | HONG KONG | £406 |
| CHICAGO | | £231 | SINGAPORE | £411 |
| TORONTO | | £243 | TOKYO | £482 |
| SEATTLE | | £264 | HARARE | £524 |
| DENVER | | £282 | AUSTRALIA | £525* |
| VANCOUVER | | £315 | NEW ZEALAND | £664 |

Continental Airlines SPECIALS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NEW YORK | rtn £ | £178 |
| BOSTON | | £178 |
| WASHINGTON | | £188 |
| FLORIDA | | £229 |
| CALIFORNIA | | £238 |

TRAVEL INSURANCE
£10 OFF every policy sold
Offer valid until 28/2/98. One application per trip. Applies only to policies costing £30 or more.
01243 817781
CLUB DIRECT




Look closely.
There are no hidden extras in the price of our return flights.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| AMSTERDAM | from £68 rtn | FRANKFURT | from £129 rtn |
| BELFAST* | from £69 rtn | GLASGOW* | from £69 rtn |
| BERGEN | from £199 rtn | NICE | from £129 rtn |
| BRUSSELS | from £79 rtn | OSLO | from £159 rtn |
| COLOGNE | from £104 rtn | PALMA | from £123 rtn |
| COPENHAGEN | from £142 rtn | PARIS | from £68 rtn |
| DRESDEN | from £219 rtn | PRAGUE | from £149 rtn |
| EDINBURGH* | from £69 rtn | ZURICH | from £129 rtn |

Return flight prices from London Heathrow, including taxes.

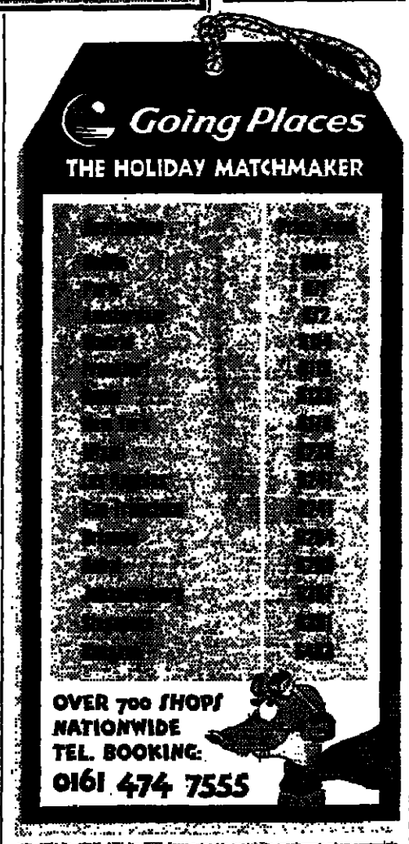
Other fares are also available from East Midlands, Leeds Bradford, Teesside, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast and Dublin.

Contact your local travel agent or call for details on
0345 554554
or book on the internet http://www.flybritishmidland.com

British Midland
The Airline for Europe

Prices quoted available on selected dates and flights. Subject to availability. Travel must include a Saturday night stay. Flight prices include UK and foreign levied taxes (surcharge rates may vary). * 14 days advance booking required for Belfast, Edinburgh and Glasgow at advertised price level. Credit card transactions for bookings under £2000

CHECK-IN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22




ABTA No. 48226. ATOL No. 2873. Fares subject to availability, supplements where appropriate and are not all for simultaneous departure. Fares include all airport and departure taxes. Fares to departure from London airports and may be subject to restrictions on departure date and length of stay. Subject to £1 per person compulsory scheduled airline fuelsurcharge increase. 1% charge applies to all credit/charge card transactions for bookings under £2000

SAVE on TRAVEL INSURANCE

| ANNUAL from £69 | LONG STAY from £10.50 per month | USA CAR HIRE TOP-UP Extends Liability to $1M | SINGLE TRIP from £10 |
|---|---|---|---|

WORLDWIDE
01892 833 338

USA & CANADA
QUALITY CAR RENTALS
- FULLY INCLUSIVE RATES
- LOWEST FLORIDA LONG RENTALS
- LOWEST ONEWAY DROP OFFS
- CANADA-TO-USA RENTALS
- FREE EXTRA DRIVERS BETWEEN CALIFORNIA & NEVADA
- FREE SPOUSE DRIVERS
- NO DROP OFF CHARGES BETWEEN CALIFORNIA & NEVADA
- NO AIRPORT TAXES
- NO HANDLING FEES
- NO PRIVILEGE FEES
- NO CREDIT CARD FEES
- NO PROBLEM!

FREEWAYUSA RENT-A-CAR

01444 450101
FAX 01444 454548
Email: sales@freeway-usa.com




Debonair. The first low cost European airline to let an adult fly free with a paying child.

Daily scheduled flights from London Luton. One way fares. All fares shown now include £10 UK departure tax. £10 UK departure tax will apply to non fare-paying adult.

| Dusseldorf | Barcelona | Madrid |
|---|---|---|
| £79 | £79 | £79 |
| **Munich** | **Copenhagen** | **Rome** |
| £89 | £89 | £89 |
| **Milan*** | **Nice** | **Weekend Specials*** |
| £89 | £59 | £97 return including UK and foreign taxes. |

debonair
We're opening up the skies.

Call now on 0541 580 388 or contact your travel agent.

TRAVEL Insurance
We will not be beaten on price!

USA - 17 days* - Worldwide Australia
£29.00 £160

EUROPE - 17 days*
£14.00

FREE AIRPORT PARKING WITH DIRECT

0990 133218 7 days

FLIGHTSAVERS
LOW COST AIRFARES WORLDWIDE
SCHEDULED RETURNS FROM:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Amsterdam | £55 | Brussels | £79 |
| Dublin | £65 | Paris | £69 |
| Boston | £187 | New York | £187 |
| Hong Kong | £351 | Singapore | £421 |
| Johannesburg | £397 | Nairobi | £316 |

SKI CHARTERS FROM:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Calgary | £149 | Denver | £149 |
| Grenoble | £79 | Vancouver | £149 |

WORLDWIDE CHARTERS FROM:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alicante | £55 | Algarve | £69 |
| Cyprus | £99 | Fuerteventura | £65 |
| Majorca | £79 | Malaga | £65 |
| Menorca | £79 | Tenerife | £79 |
| Corfu | £149 | Venice by | £199 |
| Corfu | £149 | Orlando | £359 |

For all your LOW COST SCHEDULED & CHARTER flights plus • Car Hire • Airport Hotels • Airport Parking • Insurance

CALL NOW FOR DETAILS OF HUNDREDS MORE BARGAINS
0990 143301
24 hrs 7 days
NO CREDIT CARD SURCHARGE

Co-op Travel DIRECT

NEXUS TRAVEL

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| AUSTRALIA | £440 | TOKYO | £499 |
| CANADA | £99 | DELHI | £99 |
| DUBAI | £279 | PORTUGAL | £79 |
| FRANCE | £99 | PRAGUE | £149 |
| GENEVA | £99 | SPAIN | £99 |
| GERMANY | £199 | 5TH AFRICA | £249 |
| GOA | £299 | STOCKHOLM | £349 |
| GREECE | £369 | TURKEY | £149 |

PLUS MORE TO AMERICA, & DATE OF RETURN

0117 927 7727

FLIGHTSEATS
Now booking Summer 98
Retail agents for ATOL holders. ABTA C3097
ABTA members for 18 years
prices from:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Alicante | £99 | Turkey | £129 |
| Malaga | £99 | Malta | £99 |
| Faro | £99 | Greece & Islands | £99 |
| Palma | £99 | Geneva | £79 |
| Majorca/Ibiza | £99 | Tenerife | £129 |
| Corfu | £79 | Israel | £199 |
| Lanzarote | £79 | Orlando | £169 |
| Funchal | £99 | Canada | £229 |

0990 239904

OVERSEAS TRAVEL

FARE EAST
SPECTACULAR HOLIDAY PACKAGE

Singapore
FROM £425

Singapore Spectacular: a great holiday package with Singapore Airlines. Including Economy airfare and 3 nights hotel twin-based accommodation, breakfast, airport transfers and city tour. Package price is £399 plus £26 pre-payable taxes. Valid from 12th January to 30th April 1998 (excluding 21st February to 1st March 1998). Restrictions apply. Contact Singapore Airlines or see your travel agent.

SINGAPORE AIRLINES

isic international student identity card

available at your local student travel shop or students' union. for more information call
01457 890930

Quality EUROPEAN HOLIDAYS

Prague, Vienna & Budapest £698
15th & 22nd April, 6th & 13 May - 9 days
A super Bohemian Rhapsody tour to see the treasures of three of Europe's most fascinating cities.
The Romanesque and Baroque beauty of Prague, the music and majesty of Vienna, and the "Pearl of the Danube", Budapest, combined in one unforgettable holiday experience.
Includes scheduled flights, first class hotels, breakfast, sightseeing, tour manager.

01394 276276
Brochure Line
ARENA TRAVEL

Arena Travel is a trading name of Arena Holidays Ltd
Hamilton House, Cambridge Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 7SW

National Parks Walking Tours

Join us for a walk through some of America's most breathtaking scenery.

The Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Bryce Canyon, Arches & Yosemite are among the highlights on these leisurely tours. A gentle stroll or a more challenging hike, the choice is yours.
12 days from £1,195. Call for a brochure

01753 681999
Explorers Tours ATOL / ABTA V3855

FREE TRAVEL INSURANCE AT LUNN POLY

With any summer '98 overseas holiday costing £299* or more per person. For details ask at any Lunn Poly Holiday Shop or call us on ☎ 0990 [illegible]

Lunn Poly
A better way to getaway
ABTA 18057

*Applies to summer '98 overseas holidays with a duration of up to 17 days only *£299 or more per person on long haul holidays. Offer cannot be combined with any other promotional offer or discount, applies to new bookings only and is subject to availability. †Lines open Mon-Fri 9-5.30, Sat 9-5. All calls charged at standard national call rate. Full details available in shops

OUT NOW - 8 Award winning Winter 97/98 & Summer 1998 Brochure
- A superb selection of 3, 4 & 5+ hotels
- Day flights, ex Gatwick & Heathrow
- Special regional add-ons.
- Free Guide Book & Discount Card
- Deals, Children, Singles, Honeymooners
- Early Booking Bonus, extra nights free
- Flexible durations from 2-56 nights
- Price pledge: We will not be beaten

ALGARVE OPORTO
MADEIRA
PORTO SANTO
MOROCCO
GIBRALTAR
TUNISIA
GOZO MALTA
COMINO
BERMUDA
SPAIN
CYPRUS
MAJORCA
JERSEY

CADOGAN HOLIDAYS

VOTED BEST SPECIALIST SHORT HAUL OPERATOR '97
Reservations 8am - 8pm
01705 828515
Brochure Line 24hr
0990 171819

Holiday Parks
Holland
Germany
Bruges
City Breaks

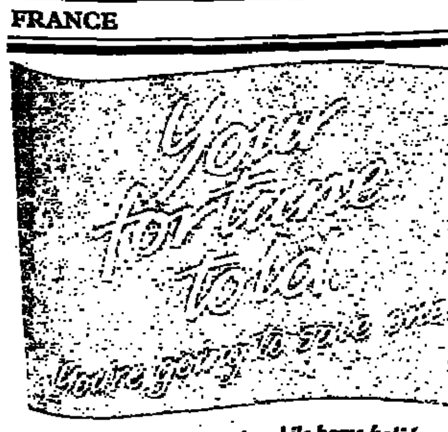
Quality holiday parks in Holland and the Black Forest and Mosel regions of Germany. All with a range of leisure facilities – most with indoor pools. Or discover beautiful Bruges in Belgium from one of our comfortable, city centre apartments.

Phone 01502 502 605
Quote A3566

HOSEASONS
Or write to: Hoseasons Holidays, Dept A3566, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0LW

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 481 1989 (TRADE
0171 481 4000 (PRIVATE
FAX: 0171 782 7824

## FRANCE



*Fantastic camping and mobile home holidays across Europe. Book before January 31st and you can look forward to astronomical savings* and a free UK short break.***

*Call* **0990 143 285** *or see your Travel Agent, quoting FTT03. (Offer subject to availability.)*

Haven Europe

*New bookings only. **Bookings of 7 nights or more. A company within The Rank Group Plc.

**ARDECHE** Watermill apts, sleeps 6-10, swimming, canoeing. July / August. 01392 277520.

**BEAUTIFUL** 18C farmhouse, Gascony, slps 10, large pool, panoramic views. 0181 995 9146.

**ARIEGE** Pyren, stone cot (4), walks, flowers, birds, markets, Cathare castles. 01629 57850.

**BEAUTIFUL** Tarn Valley. Secluded mod cottage, slps 6. Pan. views. Lakeside gdn, swim, fish, sail. Fr £200pw. 01843 604973.

**BRITTANY** Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01455 852235 quoting LRF406.

**BRITTANY** Tranquil cottage nr Coast. 4 bedrms, 1 ensuite, 2 baths. Superb views in beautiful countryside. 01868 723254

**BRITTANY** Slps 12, luxury, superb hol house, beach 300m. tel 24 hrs 0033 479554628

**BRITTANY** Charming thatched cottages & log fires, S/pool. Beach 25 mins. 01946 723100

**BRITTANY** Conv. F/house B&B. 5 course dinner+Wine. 275FF p/p Eng spkn. 0033 298 999592

**CENTRAL FRANCE** Correze lake Edge, water sports, shared jetty, own mooring, 4 bed, slps 8/10, patio, from £400, Brochure. 01780 751756.

**BOATING in FRANCE**
South of France, Camargue, Burgundy, Petite Saône, Saône, Loire, Alsace-Lorraine, Maine-Anjou. Free colour brochure.
Phone 01502 502 604
Quote K3057
HOSEASONS

**MOTORAIL TO FRANCE & ITALY**
SPECIAL OFFERS
*FREE CAR BREAKDOWN INSURANCE
Instant Confirmation
FOR BROCHURE PHONE 24 HRS — OPEN TODAY
01253 595555

**COTE D'AZUR** Nr Cannes (slps 11). Spectacular hilltop villa. Panoramic sea views. Lge pool. Beach 5 mins. From £2,245pw. For this & other properties for 4-14 people 01189 402620

**CHARENTE MARITIME** 3 dble bedrm cottage + cot, modern kitchen, lge lounge/diner, courtyard gdn, BBQ, 25 mins beaches. 01234 708675.

**COTE D'AZUR** Pegomas. Provencal style villa, slps 4/5, 9 Kms Cannes. Pool. £200/300pw. Tel: 01732 763734.

**COTE D'AZUR**, Vence, beautiful apt, slps 4, pool, pkng. From £160pw 0171 3765791.

**DORDOGNE.** Restored Pigeonnier in courtyard of beautiful Chateau. Own secluded pool. 10 kms Bergerac. Vineyards. English owners. Slps 7. Tel:0033 553 571295 Fax: 553 617994

**DORDOGNE** much sort after period farm house. Pvt pool. Idyllic position. Wonderful views. Slps 8, 4 beds, 3 baths. £450/£975 01233 732993.

**DORDOGNE-CHARENTE BORDER.** Rural cottage for 2, next to English owners home. Swimming pool. Great views. From £95pw. Tel: 00 33 553904320

**DORDOGNE** Bergerac, tranquil hilltop farmhouse + cottages. Pool. Slps 8/10, 6,4,2. £130-£1080 pw. 01489 577216.

**DORDOGNE** 2 charming holiday cottages on farm. Swimming pool, fishing. Tel Mrs Booth 0033553 069444.

**DORDOGNE** Cottage, beautiful views, secluded garden, large new pool. £400-£700pw. Sleeps 5-6. Tel: 01753 888871

**DORDOGNE** Stone barn. 5 beds for rent. Slps 12. 2 baths. Lge pool. 01707 224848(D) Ask for Jenny. 01206 241927(E)

**DORDOGNE** restored farmhouse situated amongst vineyards. Slps 7. All modern ammenities. Pool(shared). 01763 271385

**DORDOGNE** Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01455 852235 quoting LRF405.

**DORDOGNE** Goldilocks Cottage seeks bears, cheap winter let. CH, TV, phone. Avail World Cup 1 hr Bordeaux. 01564 774397.

**DORDOGNE** lovely 18C manor house &/or cottage, priv pool, tennis Tel: 0171 221 0029

**DORDOGNE** Idyllic farmhse own pool slps 8-9 and/or towerhse slps 2. Tel:01273 738991

**FRENCH CANALS** self-drive 4-12 berth Penichettes from 23 bases all over France. Brochure from French Country Cruises. Tel 01572-821330 AITOT Atol

**HONFLEUR** Idyllic farmhouse private estate 30 acres pool slps 6. £200-700pw 0171 723 5142

**IDYLLIC** 200 yr old oak beamed cottage on Lot/Aveyron border. Private pool, 3 d beds, all mod cons. 01985 218410 for b'hure

**LOT/DORDOGNE** Spacious secluded farmhouse, all mod cons, slps 12, private pool. Tel: 01373 812596.

**LOT/DORDOGNE** Superb farmhouse Sleeps 2-8, lovely cottage sleeps 2-8. Private pool. Tel: 0033553409805 (English)

**LOT** lovely manor hse in 6 acres. Slps 8 comfortably. from £300pw. 01935 391840.

**LOT** Valley Gorge. 7 superb cottages (5 with pools) sleep 2-8 in secret Southern France. Paul Pocock 0033 565 486 291

**MAJAC SW,** Beautiful medieval village. Superb house waiting 13C exterior with 20C interior. Sleeps 8 people in blissful comfort0115 941 4800

**MAJAC SW,** Beautiful medieval village. Superb house waiting 13C exterior with 20C interior. Sleeps 8 people in blissful comfort0115 941 4800

**NORMANDY** Rural, Luxuriously renovated & furnished maison bourgeois of great charm. Sleeps 6, 3 ensuite baths, sitting & dining rooms, excellent kitchen. Perfect for house parties. Peace, quiet, country walks, yet 5 kms from historic market town and 40 minutes Deauville, Honfleur and beaches. Available from April 1. Rates start from FF10,000 pw including daily maid service. Sorry, no children under 14. Tel 00 377 9350 7681 after 6pm or fax 0033 23244 4585.

**NORMANDY** Charming old village house nr Bayeux, fine views, ½ hr sea, garden. Slps 6/7 fr £200pw. 01460 76161.

**NORMANDY** Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01455 852235 quoting LRF413.

**NR UZES** Charmingly restored village house. Comfortably slps 7, 2 baths, 2 pvt terr, avail May-Oct from £400pw. English owners. Tel: 00 33 466226213

**PROVENCE** nr Fayence (slps 8). Farmhouse retreat in 12 idyllic acres. Large pool. Stunning views. Maid. From £1,960pw. For this & other properties for 4-14 people 01189 402620

**PROVENCE** Uzes. Delightful farmhouse in idyllic rural situation. Slps 8/10, book now at 1997 prices. 01761 462428

**PROVENCE** Lux 18th C house in 30 acres. Pool, river. Nr tennis, golf. Slps 6-8. Sep cott. own pool, slp 2-4.0033 494 387233

**PROVENCE** Luberon, 2 bed, stone cottage, magnificent view, living/ dining rm, lge garden. Tel: 0033 490 084336 (eves).

**PROVENCE** Saillans, architect's hse, stunning views, pool, slps 6/7. Tel/Fax 01772 783262.

**PROVENCE** Unspoilt hill village house, sleeps 6. From £250pw. Tel. 01223 411762

**S FRANCE** Flat sleeps 2/4 beside Med beach near Perpignan. From £88pw. 01273 834974.

**PROVENCE** (Var) Pretty 2 bedrm villa. Terr gdn. Superb views. £150-300pw. 01227 760946

**ST TROP** 4 min. House for 4, 2 bedrms/baths. View bay. Gge. Pools. £495pw. 01892 870562.

**TARN** Halfway Albi-Montauban, mod cottage in historic village, CH, 3 dble beds, bath, gdn. Easy reach Carcassone, Toulouse, Gorge du Tarn. 01703 454159.

**TOURAINE VACANCES** Lovely cottages in Loire Valley. Chateaux, wines, exc food. www.touraine-vacances.com. Call/fax 01634 832230

**VENDEE** Exclusive cottages, farmhouses, villas. Country Cottages in France: 01455 852235 quoting LRF414.



The Best Value Camping & Mobile Home Holidays in Europe
KEYCAMP Holidays
Choose from our exclusive luxury Mobile Homes or 4 Bedroom Supertents on over 100 of Europe's finest campsites. Take two weeks in June from only £299* for 2 adults and 4 children, including ferry.
Tel: 0181 395 8565 24hr
ABTA V5658 *Insurance Extra AITO

**Allez France**
Super Sites
Mobile Homes
-Top Coastal Sites
-W. Coast & Med
-Low Prices
PHONE FREE FOR BROCHURE ON
0500 404140
Quote SS98-T
AITO ABTA ATOL

**The Best of France**
• Top châteaux hotels
• Other exclusive hotels
• Ferry, Shuttle, Fly-drive
Tailor-made holidays
More than an ordinary holiday!
Unicorn Holidays 01582 83 4400
ATOL 2431 ABTA V1074 AITO

**JARD** s/mer (Vendee) cottage Slps 4/6, gdn, Nr beach, fr £200pw. Tel: 0181 7485656

**MEDITERRANEAN PYRENEES** Self-catering mountain & coastal properties, many with pools. Breathtaking countryside. Tel: 0171 284 2295 or www.countrycousins.co.uk Country Cousins Abroad Ltd.

Holiday Homes & Gîtes de France Cottages
**FRANCE NORD**
Specialists in
Pas-de-Calais
Picardy
Loire Valley
Moselle
Brittany
Paris
Ile de France
FREE Brochure from: 77 Bedfield Cres, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 2JA
0121 353 6457

**Vintage France**
The finest selection of cottages, farmhouses and villas with pools
Do as the French do... ...live a little
FREE colour brochure
Country Cottages in France
QUOTING DRF404
01455 852 235

**Allez France**
Villas & Cottages
•FREE en route hotel
•Coast & country
•Many with pools
BROCHURE FREEPHONE
0500 303130
Quote BR98-T
AITO ABTA ATOL

**NORMANDY**
Gîtes de France cottages
☐ Self-catering
☐ Choice of 120
☐ Best locations
Normandie Vacances FREE Brochure
01922 725705

**BRITTANY**
...villas and cottages. Mobile homes on 4 star sites by the sea. Also 3 star hotels & activity holidays, including cycling & walking.
BRITTANY DIRECT HOLIDAYS
TEL: 0181 641 6060
ABTA V3262

**FRANCE**
NO ONE COMES CLOSER TO FRANCE.
Farmhouses in Provence, châteaux in the Loire, cottages in Burgundy. Individual holiday houses of quality & character in France and Corsica. Many with pool.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143681 QUOTE REF: F162
Or write to: Vacances en Campagne, Dept F162, P.O. Box 2025, Pulborough, RH20 1YQ.
VACANCES EN CAMPAGNE
AITO BOND 1010 ATOL 2433

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

**Travel as many times as you like from £59.95 a year**
With our annual travel insurance you can take an unlimited number of trips. To enrol, call between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday quoting reference TIA02.
American Express Insurance Services
0800 700 737
Available to non-Cardmembers
No need to compromise
Certain exclusions and limitations apply. Policy Terms and Conditions are available on request. American Express Services Europe Limited is an independent intermediary governed by the ABI Code of Conduct. American Express Services Europe Limited. Registered Office: Portland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5BZ. Registered Number: 1833139

## GREECE

**MAINLAND GREECE** is really magnificent, lovely beaches, mountains, forests to explore. A wide choice of comfortable private villas, cottages and hotels in our magnificent new brochure. Voyages Ilena 0800 783 9026 Aito/Atol

**Greek Options**
A quality selection of Villas and Apartments. We have over 18 years experience in offering holidays for the discerning traveller.
*Stoupa. Zakynthos. Parga, Kefalonia. Paxos. Lefkas & Crete*
For your 1998 Brochure:
0171 233 5233

**LEFKADA** - ever inspiring Ionian Island. We are a small operator, offering only the highest quality, exclusive accommodation. From luxury villas with pool to waterfront apartments. Two Travel Industry Awards in 1997. Brochure tel: 01580 765000, ABTA AITO ATOL.

**MAINLAND GREECE-ZAGORIA.** 44 stone-built, traditional villages. Mountains, ravines, waterfalls - wild flowers everywhere. Stay in award winning 'Retreat' Inns, FlyDrives, walking/trekking, photography, painting and Alexander Technique. Brochure tel: 01580 765000. ABTA, AITO, ATOL.

**PAXOS, CORFU** Skiathos, Skopelos, Symi. Cottages villas in quiet, unspoilt locations nr. sea. Travel a la Carte 01635 201140 AITO, ATOL

**Rediscover Greece**
Discover the real Greece with Sapphire. As part of the Sunsail Group, we've over 20 years' experience in arranging specialist Mediterranean holidays. Choose from our unique selection of small, owner-run hotels and apartments in beautiful, unspoilt locations. Call our reservations team now for detailed information and a brochure.
Freephone 0800 652 6520 24 HRS
Sapphire HOLIDAYS
http://www.sapphireholidays.co.uk
ABTA V4087 ATOL 987

## CHECK-IN

**World Offers.**
Flight prices from:
Lisbon £135 rtn
Milan £155 rtn
San Francisco £289 rtn
Nice £125 rtn
TAXES INCLUDED
Car hire from £16 per day
For thousands of World Offers call us now on:
0345 222111
Book by 28th January '98
Fares are return from London and subject to availability and travel periods. Includes pre-paid taxes correct at time of going to press. San Francisco – fare £245/tax £44, Lisbon – fare £118/tax £17, Nice – fare £108/tax £17, Milan – fare £139/tax £16. Car hire based on 3-6 days rental. For details see ITV Teletext p.380, your travel agent, British Airways Travel Shop or book and pay at our Web site: www.british-airways.com
WORLD OFFERS
BRITISH AIRWAYS
The world's favourite airline

## NEW BROCHURES FOR 1998





## PORTUGAL

**ABANDONED HOPE!** Algarve, det villa, air con, 3 bed ensuite, own grounds, pool, court, quiet, maid. Tel: 0117 9560022

**AFFORD VALE DO LOBO:** Owners Club. Lux villa, pool, maid. Low prices. 01752 261383

**ALGARVE** Privately owned luxury villa on hillside near Loule, 5 bedrooms, sleeps 9, 3½ bath, large pool, tennis court. BBQ. Daily maid. Car hire essential. Tel: 01334 838411.

**ALBUFEIRA** Lux country villa, heated pool, sat TV, 4 dbl beds, sea view, Maid. 01865 511582.

**ALGARVE** Exclusive Quinta do Lago. The ultimate in luxury, Four Seasons Fairways. 2 & 3 bedroom villas with BBQ, with or without pools. Tennis, gym, discount golf. 0115 9663661

**ALGARVE** nr Lagos. Beautiful villa, slps 8, 4 dble beds all ensuite. Daily maid, pool, t.court. lge gdn, sea 2 KM. sat. Tv. April-Oct '98' 01367 820057/240786

**ALGARVE** nr. Quinta do Lago Lux villa, slps up to 10. Avail fr April, own pool, tennis court. Fr. £1,250pw. 01883 653398.

**ALGARVE** Lux Bay. Pvt villa, slps 6, maid, gdn, sea views, Sat TV, 200m beach, sports nr by. Tel: 01923 852871.

**CARVOEIRO CLUB** Lux villa, 4 dble bdrms, en suite baths, air cond, htd pool, glorious views, golf, maid. 0181 650 8684.

**ALGARVE** Executive Villa, Pool, Bar, BBQ. Slps Max 9. Seasonal £110-£200pp. 01376-327895

**INDEPENDENT VILLAS**
WEST ALGARVE HOLIDAYS
PRIVATE VILLAS & APARTMENTS
Family Holidays + Golf, Tennis, Boats
UP TO 10% EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT
Parque da Floresta
Hotel Belavista da Luz
Luz Ocean Club
Burgau, Salema, Lagos
01473 610324

**ALGARVE CARVOEIRO**
Private group of owners with lovely 3, 4, and 5 bedroom villas all set in their own gardens, with private pools, maid, BBQ and close to beach and town of Carvoeiro. Also 2 bedroom town houses with shared pool avail. from £340.00 pw
0181 325 8335
For Villa details and photographs

**SIMPLY Portugal**
Truly individual villas with pools, glorious manor houses and selected hotels and pousadas all over this fascinating country, from the Minho and the Douro to the lesser-known Algarve. Plus flexible 'Wandering' holidays and city breaks.
0181 995 9323
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

**INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS PORTUGAL**
Holiday properties in the most delightful areas of Portugal. Many with pool. Travel facilities available.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143682
QUOTE REF P134
AITO BOND 1010 ATOL 2433

**FRANCE À LA CARTE**
Tailor-made holidays at hand-picked character hotels. Friendly ambience and superb cuisine combine beautifully with the character and landscapes of this captivating country.
Cross-channel hops, longer stays, city breaks and touring holidays; self-drive, fly-drive, rail-drive and Eurostar. (43)
AITO VFB ATOL 1403
(01242) 240 310
http://www.vfbhols.co.uk



**THE SUNDAY TIMES**
**THE TIMES**
***New Brochures 1998***

To receive up to six of the brochures on the 'New Brochures' page please indicate your choice in the boxes below.

☐ ☐ ☐
☐ ☐ ☐

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms..............................

Address:..............................

.............................. Postcode:..........

Please return to: Times Brochures Service
P.O. Box 1
Tadcaster
N. Yorkshire
LS24 9XY

or fax your request on: 01937 530 369

*By February 18th 1998*

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further information and offers from Times Newspapers Ltd. or selected companies approved by us. ☐

TT17/1

**SIMPLY Ionian**
Paxos, Corfu, Lefkas, Meganisi, Ithaca, Cephalonia, Zakynthos
Quintessentially Greek holidays away from the mainstream. Private villas with pools, hotels and cottages in beautiful unspoilt locations by the sea and island.
0181 995 9323
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

**SIMPLY Crete**
Escape the mainstream and experience an island of stunning landscapes and warm hospitality. Country cottages, villas with pools, quality apartments and family-run hotels in unspoilt locations. Plus flexible 'Wandering' holidays.
0181 995 9323
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

## FRANCE

**FRENCH LIFE**
Cottages & Villas
MANY WITH POOLS • 1000'S TO CHOOSE FROM
THROUGHOUT FRANCE • CHILDREN UNDER 16 FREE
24 HOUR BROCHURE LINE 0113 2050 200
QUOTE REF: TI1701

## GREECE

**NR MONEMVASIA** Traditional 3 bed hse. Lge sitting rm & viranda. 2 Wc's, 2 showers. Slps 8. In quiet and open country, but 4 mins from Sea. £300pw. Tel:0171 7274065 Ask for Minnada. Fax:0171 7928509

**PAXOS** Stunning hse, May-Sept, slps 8, 2 dbl, 2 twin, maid. Fr £600pw. Tel/fx 01590 612100

**PELEPONESE** Luxury seafront villa available, sleeps 4-6, £200-£250pw. 0181 989 0640

**SECRET** Greek island retreats for those who seek a more luxurious escape from the crowds. Greek Islands Club's New Private Collection. Tel 01932 220477 ABTA AITO ATOL.

**SKIATHOS:** Superb sea views, Large Villa with Gardens. Sleeps 6-8. 01509 843586

**THE TIMES** recommends Pure Crete, breathtaking views & empty beaches. Pure Crete 0181 760 0879 ATOL AITO.

**WALKS IN THE MANI** Expert guides, small groups, pleasant hotels. Headwater (01606) 813335 ATOL 2412, AITO

**ZAKYNTHOS** Rural beach loc, lux villas/apts a/c, all yr, col broch. To Book 01435 656227(24hr)

## PORTUGAL

**ALGARVE** a beautiful 4 bedrm/4 bathrm villa on fringe coastal village, own pool, maid service, close to beaches, golf, tennis, horse riding. 01752 774 586

## SPAIN

**The Best of Spain & Portugal**
Paradores & Pousadas
Exclusive tailor-made holidays far from mass tourism staying at hotels converted from castles, palaces etc. and other excellent hotels. Fly-drive (also chauffeur-driven) or ferry holidays.
Unicorn Holidays 01582 83 4400
More than an ordinary holiday!
ATOL 2431 AITO ABTA V1074
MALLORCA ALSO

## FRANCE

COTTAGES
Character properties in rural France
SELF CATERING
Brochure Line
01242 240 310
AITO VFB ATOL 1403
VFB Holidays Ltd, (ST) Cheltenham GL50 3FB
http://www.vfbhols.co.uk

Preview your next holiday on VIDEO
Best Holiday planners on Video. Choose from 60 titles @£3.95. For full list call TTV free on 0800 525509

## PORTUGAL

PORTUGAL, MADEIRA & THE AZORES
BOOK DIRECT & SAVE £100's!
Low Budget & Luxury Holidays
Hotels, Villas, Apts, Manors, Pousadas, Fly Drives, Coach Tours & Douro Cruises. (Packages, Flights on Acc. only)
NEW direct flights
Manchester - Oporto/Lisbon

## FRANCE

A NEW WAY TO ENJOY HOLIDAY FRANCE
BOOK DIRECT WITH THE OWNERS AND SAVE
*Privately owned properties throughout France:*
Cottages, Villas, Apartments and Châteaux.
PLUS special savings on ferry travel.
For your colour brochure call: 0990 143 551
French HOLIDAY HOMES TO RENT

**HOLIDAY HOMES IN FRANCE & SPAIN**
UNIQUE CURRENCY EXCHANGE OFFER: FF10=£1 GUARANTEED!
BOOK EARLY AND SAVE 20% ON MANY OTHER HOLIDAYS.
Choose from more than 800 Holiday Homes including country cottages, seaside apartments, luxury châteaux, Spanish casas and much much more in the best regions of Holiday France and Spain.
FROM £171 PER WEEK THAT'S FOR 4 PEOPLE!
Brittany Ferries Holidays
BROCHURES 0990 143 537 RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION 0990 360 360
NB: Special conditions apply to early booking and other offers and may not apply to all holidays. See brochure for details.

## OVERSEAS TRAVEL

LOCAL SPECIALITIES AND STUNNING SCENERY.
PRICE INCLUDES
reservations 0171 581 1161 brochure 01455 852202
contact your travel agent or www.clubmed.com
Adults from £721 per week
Agadir Morocco
Club Med

...telephone 0181-546 2000. Saturday, January 17, 1998. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office

هكذا من الاهل

هكذا من الجرصل



## ITALY

APULIA/Calabria. Sicily, Amalfi. Sample the wonderful south. Unique trulli houses, castles, spacious farms. Skiathos Hills. 01494 722193. Also Aust

CYCLING & WALKING in unsurpassed Italy. Gentle, good, friendly hotels, bags moved. Tel Headwater (01606) 813362 ATTO 2412 ATOL

EXCLUSIVE Converted farmhouse apartments in Tuscany countryside. Ideal for Siena/San Gimignano. Pool, restaurant with excellent food/wines. English speaking owner gives authentic Italian welcome. Fax:00-39-577-949900

FARMHOUSE by The Sea, Tuscany coast, Monte Argentario, almost an island, marvellous sea views, 3 miles walk, down to unspoilt beach, 90 miles north of Rome. Tel: 0181 967 9919 Fax: 0181 747 8942.

INVITATION TO TUSCANY Romantic cottages & luxurious villas no far in areas of the lovely Lucca area of Tuscany. 0121 429 5016 or 0171 603 7111.

LE MARCHE Quiet old farm hse, slps 10-12, 3 baths, DW, WM, 30sec views 01908 618053

ROMANTIC Medieval Tuscany. B/B owner's old villa, King size, mid-st mountains, stream, Garden. Nr coast. Good food, org veg. £25pppn T/F 0039 187427022

CAREFREE ITALY
Country Villas & Apartments
Charming Intimate Hotels
City Apartments
01293 552277
ABTA V0777 ATOL 3495

THE ART OF LIVING IN ITALY
*Traditional Italian properties: farmhouses, villas and apartments in Tuscany, Umbria, Lake Garda, Sicily, Venice and the Amalfi coast. Many with swimming pool. Travel facilities available.*
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143683
QUOTE 1180 *Or write to: Vacanze in Italia, Dept 1180, P.O. Box 2025, Pulborough, RH20 1YQ.*
VACANZE IN ITALIA
ATOL BOND 1030 ATOL 2433

MARCHE 4 bed farmhouse, magnificent pool, views, mountains, walking. 01704 541188.

SARDINIA with Voyages Jumo an island of stunning beaches and magnificent scenery. Our ship, a different new residence has a wide choice of private villas, apts, hotels, simple & de luxe 0800 783 9035 Also/Aus

SICILY Aeolian Islands, we specialise in package & tailor-made holidays incl Hotels, Self-Catering, Flat/hire, Tours + Flights only. Sicilian Investments 6 Palace St London SW1E Tel 0171 8289177 ABTA/ATOL

TUSCANY large modernised hillside villa set within its own extensive grounds with panoramic and spectacular views. Large swimming pool, patio and games area, sleeps 6 in 4 bedrooms. Tel 01945 841082

TUSCANY Stunning views in hills nr Lucca, fully let 4 bed, huge pool, peaceful & private, slps 12+. Tel: 0181 567 1948

TUSCAN Mountain Farmhouse. Sleeps 6/8, pool, riding, tennis. Wonderful views. Reasonable reach Florence. Long/short let owner: 01494 564360

TUSCANY Pemba, nr Lucca, medieval hamlet, restored by owner. In hills, sea views. S/C house, sleeping 2 to 8, pool. Tel/Fax: 0033 493 562006

TUSCANY Nr Siena rural villa. Self cont apt. Slps 2 + 2. Car hire. English host. £300-£360pw Private 01225 774440

TUSCANY Charge Lucca 2 pretty farmhouses slp 2&6. £160-400pw. Wonderful mountain views. 01768 862092.

TUSCANY Restored farmhouse. Pool, fireplace, beams, splendid views, pool. 01296 468073

TUSCANY Vineyard villas, wine, pool, peace, freedom and a bargain. Tel: 01620 810500.

S.W. FRANCE
VILLAS & COTTAGES
*many with pools.*
*Enjoy fine beaches and beautiful countryside.*
FRANCOPHILE HOLIDAYS
BROCHURE TEL 24hr
01539 431860

Idyllic Italy
Villas, Countryside & Coast
- the complete selection.
Private villas, castles, farmhouses, Agriturismo apartments and hotels.
BRIDGEWATER'S IDYLLIC ITALY
ABTA W4219
0161 707 8795
24 HOURS

TUSCANY
*Traditional farmhouses, villas and apartments in Italy's prettiest regions.*
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE RING (0990) 143683 QUOTE 1179
VACANZE IN ITALIA
ATOL BOND 1030 ATOL 2433

Cottages to Castles
*The Choice Collection*
TUSCANY-UMBRIA
VENETO-COMO
NEAPOLITAN RIVIERA
*Villas sleeping from 2 - 22 people*
1998 Brochure out now
01622 726555

SIMPLY Tuscany Umbria
*Traditional country villa-apartments with pool, charming intimate hotels and flexible fly-drive holidays.*
*"Grand Touring" and Painting holidays plus short breaks to Florence, Venice and Rome.*
0181 995 9323
ABTA V1237 ATOL 1922 AITO

## SPAIN

ANDALUCIA GAUCIN Unspoilt Mtn village. Lovely traditional bed/apts. Slps 2-12. Magical countryside, rustic pine, shared pool. In rented cottage/ts. Walks, flowers. 0171 7209745

ANDALUCIA Casa Tantalgo, Costa de la Luz, un-spoilt coast, slps 2 bed, 2 bath villa, v. nice. Tel: 011424 33438.

ANDALUSIA cortijo houses in country mountain villages. Slps 4. Fully equip, own gdn & pool. Also Marbella. Ring 01422 884472 or fax 01422 884784

ANDALUCIA Country hse, slps maximum 6, pool, spectacular views, 3 beds, 2 baths, pool, 20 mins sea. Tel: 01473 630277.

ANDALUCIA Canming House for 4 in unspoilt Village nr Ronda. From £175pw. 01484 464317

COSTA DEL SOL, Mijas/Fuengirola Beach & Country Club, for sale/rent. 1 bed/bath apt, slps 4, heart of Golf. Trial week £260, 28th Feb - 7th Mar. Tel/Fax01488 272871.

SIMPLY Spain
*Escape the mainstream with our unique range of rural farmhouses, country villas with pools and exquisite small hotels in unspoilt locations throughout Andalucia and Mallorca. Flexible 'Wandering' holidays and tailor-made options*
0181 995 9323
ABTA V1237 ATOL 1922 AITO

INDIVIDUAL TRAVELLERS SPAIN
Traditional farmhouses, cottages, apartments and village houses throughout the most delightful areas of countryside Spain and Portugal. All chosen for their charm, character and setting. Many with pool.
FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 143682
QUOTE REF ES081
Or write to: Individual Travellers Spain, Dept. ES081, P.O. Box 2025, Pulborough, RH20 1YQ.
ATOL BOND 1010 ATOL 2433



APT & VILLAS in Nerja & apt in Benalmadena Tel: 01704 834000/711791

EXCLUSIVE private villa in Denia, Costa Blanca. Country loc. own pool, sleeps 6/8. Slps 6/8. £275-£675pw. 01544 743278

JAVEA 2 exclusive villas with priv. pools, all mod cons and idyllic surroundings. Slps 10-12, or 4-5. 0115 9899118

COSTA BLANCA Casa Montana, Alcahali, Jalon valley. Luz villa slps 4, 2 baths, own lge pool, BBQ, private secluded stunning views. Brochure 01262 601434

LOS MONTEROS Marbella. Luxury 4 bed, 4 bath villa, own pool & gdn, nr beach, club. Avail Sept onwards. 0161 8812686

LA MAMOLA CLUB. Half price golf! Luxury villa and pool. Attractive prices. 01787 281383.

ALIAS Private villa, 3 dbl beds. 2 baths, panoramic views, pool, tennis & golf. 0171 352 2292 (eves/289 9271 (day)

MIJAS/CAR Mountain village overlooking Med. Dec. villa in 3 quiet acres, 5 mins beach & restaurants. Slps 6 (3 main beds) Lux. kitch, sleep, fans, TV, tenn, 3 terraces, priv. private pool, £800/pw June-Sept. Tel/Fax: +34 50 478823

ANDUJAR El-Capricornio. For lease, 1 bed apartments, slps 4. From £65/pw. Tel: 01234 848588

MIJAS Superb 3 bed/2bath apt, 5 mins walk to beach & town. Pr. £300pw. 01244 710350.

MIJAS, Nerja, sleeps 6, pool, 5 mins beach, tennis, from £120pw. Tel: 0121 382 0744.

VILLAMARTIN GOLF. Corner side villa & apt with pool, secured green fees. 01892 667885.

CATALONIA SPAIN
ATOL 3192
Quality Villas Apts. & Hotels.
SPANISH HARBOUR
0117 986 0777

## SELF-CATERING

EMERALD COTTAGES
7 GREAT PRICES
INCLUSIVE PRICE from £199
PER PARTY OF 2 PLUS DOGS
Cork, Kerry, Galway, Mayo, Clare, Limerick, Wicklow, Waterford, Wexford, Tipperary, Donegal, Sligo, Offaly & Roscommon.
NOW NOW BROCHURE - OUT NOW
01756 702241

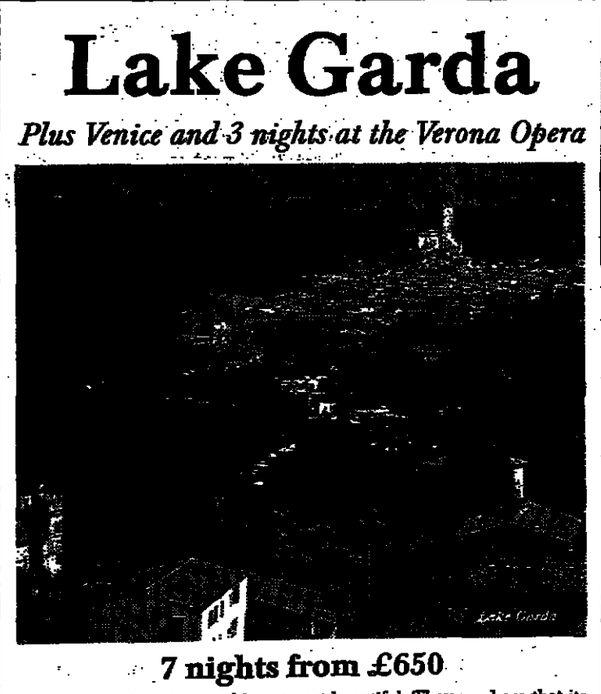
## SWITZERLAND

SUPERB summer apartments & hotels. Lakes & Mountains 01829 844405 AITO/ATOL

## RUSSIA

INDEPENDENT Travel packages. Air fares, groups, Intourist/Interflug. 0181 681 3612 and 2429

## ITALY



# Lake Garda

*Plus Venice and 3 nights at the Verona Opera*



## 7 nights from £650

Italy's largest lake is arguably its most beautiful. They say here that its shape inspired Bertolotti's original design of the violin - with its romantic cliffs at the 'neck' and its broad 'sound box' at the southern end. True or not, music is certainly the theme because this wonderful tour combines the scenic attractions of the lake, with stunning opera at the world famous open air Arena di Verona.

**Day 1 UK/Riva Del Garda**

We take a scheduled flight to Milan and transfer to Riva del Garda, a pretty little lakeside resort set in a dramatic position at the foot of the Dolomite Mountains. We will stay for seven nights at the three-star Hotel Centrale which overlooks Riva's main square and harbour, half board included.

**Days 2-7 Lake Garda**

You are free to enjoy the beautiful Lake Garda area. Two excursions are included, the first is to the timeless city of Venice, the second to Mantua, setting and inspiration for Verdi's Rigoletto.

**Day 8**

Transfer to Milan for the homeward flight.

**Three nights at the Verona Opera Festival**

Three nights at the Verona Opera are included. The performances you see will depend on your choice of departure date. Seating is in the unnumbered steps area - upgraded tickets are available at a supplement.

*Un ballo in maschera* Verdi's tale of King Gustavus' illicit love, betrayal and murder.

*Aida* The dramatic tale of Aida and Radames' tragic love by Verdi is a Verona Classic.

*Nabucco* A perennial favourite, this powerful early Verdi opera includes the stirring chorus 'Va'Pensiero' - the unofficial National Anthem.

*Tosca* Puccini's masterly and theatrical opera is a story of power, jealousy, love and cruelty.

*Rigoletto* Verdi's bitter story of the deformed court jester and his cynically abused and murdered daughter.

| 1998 Departure Dates, Performance Details & Prices | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dep Date | Un ballo in maschera | Aida | Nabucco | Tosca | Rigoletto | Price per person |
| 2 July | 04/07 | 05/07 | 03/07 | | | £650 |
| 9 July | 11/07 | 10/07 | 12/07 | | | £650 |
| 16 July | 17/07 | | 19/07 | 18/07 | | £650 |
| 23 July | 24/07 | 26/07 | | 25/07 | | £650 |
| 30 July | | | 04/08 | 31/07 | 01/08 | £650 |
| 6 Aug | | 11/08 | 08/08 | 07/08 | | £660 |
| 13 Aug | 15/08 | | 18/08 | 14/08 | | £660 |
| 20 Aug | | 25/08 | 23/08 | | 21/08 | £660 |
| 27 Aug | 29/08 | 30/08 | | 28/08 | | £660 |

**The Price Includes**

- Scheduled flights from Heathrow.
- Transfers between the airport and hotel.
- Transfers between Lake Garda and Verona for performances.
- 7 nights' accommodation as described.
- Tickets for performances as detailed.
- Holiday delay insurance.
- Airport taxes, security charges and air passenger duty.
- Services of an experienced tour leader.

Prices are per person based on the shared occupancy of twin or double bedded rooms with private shower and wc.
Supplements per person: Single rooms £11 per night. Lake view £2 per night.
Holiday Insurance: £35 (69 years and under) £50 (70 years and over).
This holiday is not available through Travel Agents.

PAGE & MOY HOLIDAYS

*Call Today*
Brochure & Reservation Hotline
0116 250 7676
Please quote ref: D00004
Weekdays 9am - 7.30pm, Saturdays 9am - 4pm, Sundays 10am - 4pm.

OR POST

Page & Moy Ltd., 136-140 London Road, Leicester, LE2 1EN.
Email: holiday@page-moy.co.uk

☐ Please send me your 1998 brochure.
☐ Reserve me:.....places on the Lake Garda/Verona Opera Holiday (Z016).
Departure date:.....
MR/MRS/MISS/MS.....
ADDRESS.....
.....
.....
POSTCODE.....
PHONE.....
☐ I enclose my cheque for £..... made payable to Page & Moy Ltd. as a deposit of £130 per person.
I wish to pay by: ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ (Issue No:.....).
A/C no.....
EXP. DATE.....
NAME.....DATE.....
SIGNATURE.....
☐ Page & Moy may pass your details to other reputable companies who may write to you to offer you goods and services. Please tick if you prefer not to receive these offers.
D00004/523-531

## PORTUGAL

COMPASS in Portugal Selection of privately owned villas with pools, some with tennis courts. Full colour brochure phone 01905 612302 (24hrs)

LUZ BAY Fine Villa, Slps 6, Small Gde, 100m Bch, Spec facils & 3/Week rents fr. 0181 6686000

## SPAIN

ANDALUCIA A house near Cordoba in inland Andalucia. Idyllic moorish villa in ancient olive groves. Own pool, water gardens, candlelit evenings. House party atmosphere. £280 per person per week inc. all meals & wines. Mrs Elliot 0171 229 6906

## MALTA & GOZO

EXTENSIVE Choice of Hotels, Villas & Apts for 1997 here please. Brochure avail 01304 640114.

## SPECIAL INTEREST

HOLIDAY, Sun & Tropical Self development with NLP master in St Emilion. Beautiful setting, pool. Tel: 0033 567 241 675.

TENNIS, GOLF and Leisure holidays in Spain, Algarve, USA, Caribbean. Sports & Leisure Holidays Ltd 01794 01794 500606 TIA B4022

## SPECIAL INTEREST

TENNIS HOLIDAYS in the sun at The Jonathan Maddison Algarve Tennis Centre. Beautiful location. All ages & standards. Also special weeks in Marrakech. 0171 440 0400 (24 hrs)

TENNIS HOLIDAYS in the sun at The Jonathan Maddison Algarve Tennis Centre. Beautiful location. All ages & standards. Also special weeks in Marrakech. 0171 440 0400 (24 hrs)

Small group holidays off the beaten track...
MIDDLE EAST AFRICA ASIA
EUROPE FAR EAST AMERICAS
01420 541007
TRAVELBAG Adventures

Walk with Waymark
*for a completely different view*
1998
- Small parties with experienced leaders
- Holidays graded from easy to strenuous
- Friendly hotels with personal service
- Backpacking and trekking tours
- Travel by scheduled airlines
- No currency surcharge

Call us today or send for our brochure
WAYMARK HOLIDAYS 01753 691404
44 WINDSOR ROAD, SLOUGH SL1 2EJ

SOME BOOKS CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE. THIS ONE CAN CHANGE EVERYBODY'S.

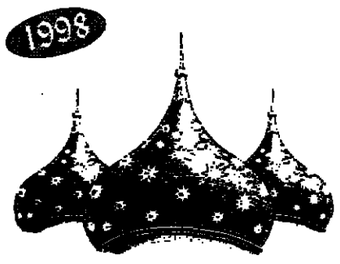


To find out how you can join an Earthwatch team providing funds and assistance on over 130 environmental and cultural projects world-wide, get the Earthwatch Institute Expedition Guide. Call 01865 311 600 with your credit card or send a cheque for £3.50, made payable to Earthwatch, to EARTHWATCH FREEPOST OF157, OXFORD OX2 6BR.

EARTHWATCH INSTITUTE
Registered Charity No. 272982
FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

## RUSSIA

TSAR GAZING.
RUSSIA FROM £369.
1998



See our new 1998 brochure for bargain city breaks starting at just £369. Alternatively, you may wish to take a special twin centre city break to Moscow and St Petersburg, or an art and culture tour from £645. In 1998 make your ordinary holiday extraordinary. Visit Russia with the specialist, Intourist Travel. Call us now for more details.

LONDON 0171 538 8600 MANCHESTER 0161 834 0230 GLASGOW 0141 204 5809
Please send me more information on Intourist 1998 holidays
Name TM
Address
Postcode
Intourist Travel Limited 219 Marsh Wall London E14 9PZ
Intourist TRAVEL LIMITED
Now you can.

## ISRAEL

eilat
Non-stop flights from Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton and Manchester
2 FEBRUARY 7 nts B&B from £399
23 FEBRUARY 7 nts B&B from £299
2 MARCH 7 nts B&B from £359
9 MARCH 14 nts B&B from £499
16 MARCH 7 nts B&B from £359
See your local travel agent or call
0990 336 336
Open Mon-Fri 9am to 8pm Saturday 9am to 5pm
UNIJET
All holidays subject to availability. Prices based on Ensuite or 2 adults sharing. Add £20 for Manchester departures.
Unijet Travel Ltd ABTA V2700 ATOL 1121

## SPECIAL INTEREST

JOURNEY LATIN AMERICA
Escorted Groups & Bespoke Tours
0181 747 8315
Or
0161 832 1441
sales@journeylatinamerica.co.uk ABTA V2522 ATOL 2828 IATA 8330
BRAZIL CHILE BELIZE BOLIVIA PERU VENEZUELA GALAPAGOS COSTA RICA ARGENTINA MEXICO GUATEMALA YUCATAN ANTARCTICA

Help the Aged Insurance services
Value-for-Money Travel Insurance for the Over 50s
✈ Annual or Trip Cover ✈
✈ No increased premiums for the older traveller ✈
FREEPHONE 0800 41 31 80
Open Mon-Fri 8am-8pm Sat 9am-4pm
please quote reference CG
Help the Aged (Registered Charity) benefits financially from each policy sold. Insurances arranged by Sedgwick Affinity Group Services, an insurance broker, and underwritten by Guardian Insurance

Experience the Unexpected
*Discover the unique experience of a small group adventure!*
- *Wildlife Safaris*
- *Trekking Expeditions*
- *Sailing Adventures*
- *Jungle Exploration*
- *Cultural Touring*
- *Wilderness Experience*

*For our 100 page colour brochure call*
01252 344161
*Please quote Reference SAT*
*Explore Worldwide Aldershot, GU11 1LQ. www.explore.co.uk*
EXPLORE worldwide
ATOL/ATOL 2595

## FROM THE ALPS TO SAMOS TO S. AFRICA

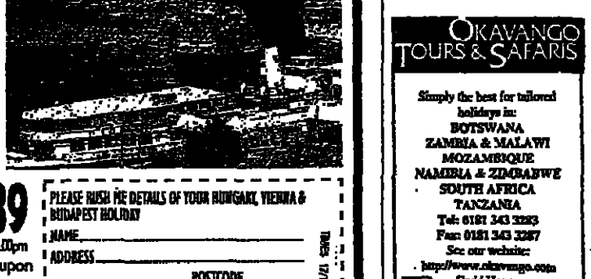
...and hundreds of other places are featured in our 1998 'Handbook of Real Holidays'. Come to the hills and mountains, the beautiful and interesting places of Europe and beyond, walk, explore, sightsee or trek. Our small escorted parties are graded to illustrate their ease or challenge, forget the maps and the holiday planning, choose from 149 different holidays, 2000 departures, and literally follow the leader ....thousands do every year and return again and again, so don't waste your holiday when you could join one of our REAL HOLIDAYS.
Minimum age 16. Call us for a brochure:

RAMBLERS HOLIDAYS, BOX 43, WELWYN GARDEN, AL8 6PQ
Tel: 01707 331133 Fax: 01707 333276
Established 1946 E-mail: ramhols@dial.pipex.com

planning the trip of a lifetime?
THE INDEPENDENT INDEPENDENT
London, Arena Exhibition Centre 30-31 January, 1 February 1998
Bristol, The Watershed Media Centre 7-8 February 1998
Manchester, G-Mex Centre 21-22 February 1998
head to
Independent Traveller's World '98 Entry from £3
The world's most imaginative travel Companies
- Free Travel Talks
- Travel Guides
- Adventure Equipment
- Free Cybercafé*

ITW hotline – 0171-341 6691 internet – www.itwnet.com
* at selected venues

Puts other holidays in the shade



EXODUS
*The Different Holiday*
Leaders in small group walking & discovery holidays, biking adventures & overland expeditions worldwide
9 Weir Road, London SW12 0LT. 0181 673 0859. http://www.exodustravels.co.uk
Fully Bonded ATOL & AITO

## EASTERN EUROPE

Enjoy an outstanding 9 day break visiting
Hungary, Vienna & Budapest from only £289

Staying in Lake Balaton, one of Hungary's most popular resort areas, this holiday features two of Europe's most majestic imperial cities, Vienna and Budapest.



All this included

Relax around Lake Balaton, one of Hungary's top resorts and join us on two included excursions - a full day in Budapest, two cities in one, straddling the River Danube, and a tour around Lake Balaton visiting Tihany Abbey. You can also enjoy an optional Csadra evening with local folk dancers, gypsy musicians and a three course meal.

Great value

You can join us at any one of our FREE local departure points in England and Wales and enjoy many wonderful excursions, all included in the holiday price.

At such good value why not treat yourself this year?

CALL NOW 01709 839 839
WEEKDAYS: 8.30am - 7.30pm • SATURDAYS: 9.00am - 5.00pm • SUNDAYS: 10.00am - 4.00pm
Leger ABTA Values
or clip and return the coupon
LEGER HOLIDAYS, CANKLOW MEADOWS, ROTHERHAM S60 2XR.

PLEASE RUSH ME DETAILS OF YOUR HUNGARY, VIENNA & BUDAPEST HOLIDAY
NAME
ADDRESS
POSTCODE
☐ Please tick if you do not wish to receive mail from carefully selected third parties.
TIMES 1/1

WINE TOURS - a superb selection worldwide. Arblaster & Clarke 01730 893344 AITO/ATOL
WINE WALKING & gourmet hols Probably the best worldwide. Winetrails 01306 712111

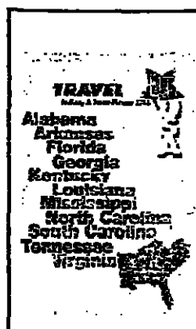
KE ADVENTURE Travel
INDIA
Trekking Climbing Cultural Tours Mountain Biking Exploratory holidays to Ladakh, Zanskar, Spiti, Garhwal & Sikkim.
Tel: 01687 73966
keadventure@enterprise.net
ATOL 2808 ABTA

OKAVANGO TOURS & SAFARIS
Simply the best for tailored holidays in:
BOTSWANA
ZAMBIA & MALAWI
MOZAMBIQUE
NAMIBIA & ZIMBABWE
SOUTH AFRICA
TANZANIA
Tel: 0181 343 3283
Fax: 0181 343 3287
See our website:
http://www.okavango.com
Gadd House, Arcadia Avenue, London N3 2JU
ABTA ATOL No 1032

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 0171 481 1989

# NEW BROCHURES FOR 1998

FAX: 0171 782 7824




Suggested touring itineraries, detailed route map, holiday planning information on the states of ALABAMA, ARKANSAS, FLORIDA, GEORGIA, KENTUCKY, LOUISIANA, MISSISSIPPI, NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA, TENNESSEE and VIRGINIA plus much more included in the new 1998 Travel South USA Holiday and Travel Planner

Order your free copy now!

(1)

## INDIA

(2)

**TRANS INDUS LIMITED**

the leading India specialist for quality holidays *offering*



- Escorted group tours
- Tours for independent travellers
- Tailor-made holidays
- Guest lecturer tours led by Lady Wade-Gery, MA (Oxon)

Call: 0181 566 2729 *or Fax 0181 840 5327*

or write to Trans Indus Limited, 11 The Pavement, Popes Lane, Ealing, London W5 4NG

## NORWAY

**The Magnificent Fjord Country**

The stunning scenery and friendly Norwegian people make a holiday to Norway a memorable experience.

Norways largest ferry company, Color Line, offers a number of exciting holiday options including:- Cottage Holidays from only £288; Motoring Holidays from only £408; Escorted Coach Tours from only £383; 4 Day Sea Breaks from only £84; and Norwegian Coastal Voyages from only £780. Regular sailings from Newcastle direct to the Fjord Country.

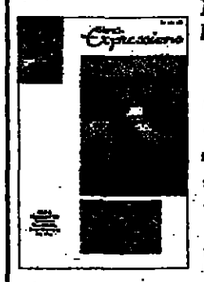


0191 296 1313

(3)

## FRENCH EXPRESSIONS

*Hotel Holidays of Quality*



To personally selected hotels of charm and character throughout France. From Normandy to Provence, the Loire Valley to the Pyrenees, in the country, on the coast. Our hotels include chateaux-hotels, water-mills, country inns and grand hotels. For long stays, touring holidays and short breaks. By air with hire-car, self-drive and motorail. Tailor-made to suit your wishes. (ATOL 3076, AITO 1042).

To discuss your holiday plans or for a copy of our brochure, phone:

0171 431 1312

(4)



## DISCOVER THE REAL GREECE AND CYPRUS

In one of our traditional villas in charming villages on Crete, Halki, Rhodes, Lesvos, Lefkada, Corfu and Zakynthos. Or enjoy cosmopolitan Parga or lively Lindos. On Cyprus you can relax in our villas in the mountains or on the coast or treat yourself with a stay in a luxury hotel. Phone now for a brochure.

0181 785 1234

(5)




29 years of arranging individual villa holidays for those who expect privacy, comfort, personal service and *beautiful surroundings*. Our brochure features the more unhurried and uncrowded retreats in the Ionian and Sporades islands.

Tel: 01932 220477

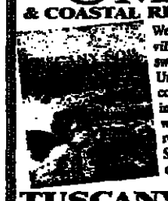
(Please quote ref ST98)

ABTA V3953 ATOL 843 AITO

(6)

## TUSCANY UMBRIA

**& COASTAL REGIONS IN ITALY**



We have some of the finest private *villas and farmhouses all with* swimming pools in Tuscany and Umbria. From the coast to the countryside and from apartments in Venice, Florence and Rome we will cater for your individual requirements.

Superior prices & knowledge as we only deal with the owners direct.

**TUSCANY NOW**

**Tel: 0171 272 5469**

**Fax: 0171 272 6184**

Email:info@tuscanynow.com

(7)

## AmeriCan Adventures



Travel on and off the beaten track from the great outdoors to the big cities of USA, Canada & Alaska, on our small group adventure tours.

★ RAFTING ★ RIDING
★ HIKING ★ BIKING
★SIGHTSEEING

For a FREE brochure call:

01892 512700

ABTA & AITO

(8)

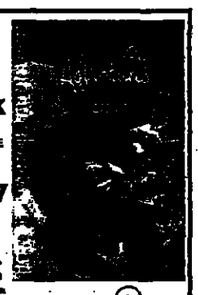
## Small group holidays off the beaten track

MIDDLE EAST-AFRICA
ASIA-FAR EAST-EUROPE
AMERICAS

*For your free brochure call*

01420 541007

TRAVELBAG



Adventures

Open 7 days a week

Travelbag Adventures (STI/DTI)
15 Turk Street Alton Hants GU34 1AG
www.travelbag-adventures.co.uk

(9)

## Dream Holidays by Design

Tailor make your own unique holiday with Experience America. Our brochure offers you the widest possible choice of American and Canadian holidays, from Florida family fun and exciting city breaks, to the freedom of the open road and the stunning scenery of the Rocky Mountains. With us there are no restricting packages - everything is designed especially for you.

EXPERIENCE AMERICA



Call our 24 hour brochure hotline now.

0990 28 00 11

(10)

ATOL 4186 ABTA V8092

## The Far East




The wonders of the Far East are far more easily enjoyed with a really seasoned guide. Travelbag is the natural choice. Offering terrific value-for-money on flights from just £375*, tours, hotels - plus advice and ideas on planning your itinerary...Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Bali, Malaysia...in whatever order suits you.

Call Travelbag now on (01420 80828 or (0171) 287 5558

*Plus tax dept 15/1/98 - 15/6/98

(11)

## Select your next Adventure



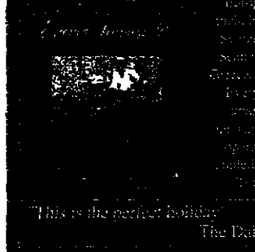
Whether just on a seasonal traveller or a first-timer, our brochure is all unique you to embark on an adventure. It could be a Wildlife Safari across the Serengeti plains, trekking in the mist Africa, a travel to the Thunder Dragon Kingdom of Bhutan, a Silk Road Journey across China or a trek in the Amazon Jungle. For your FREE copy, call us now

0171 734 1059

Email: info@marco-polo-experience.com
Internet: http://www.marco-polo-experience.com

(12)

## INSIGHT



"This is the perfect holiday" The Daily Telegraph

0990 143433

(13)

## THE ULTIMATE CAYMAN EXPERIENCE



01244 355544

CARIBBEAN

(14)

## BRIGHTON AND HOVE




City breaks by the sea. Romance, heritage, arts and culture, *shopping*, 400 restaurants and great nightlife. FREE accommodation brochure:

0345 573512 (local rate). Dept. 528.

(15)

## ELEGANT RESORTS IN THE CARIBBEAN




*The most romantic hotels and hideaways in the islands of the Caribbean, Bermuda, the Bahamas and Florida together with luxury villas, yachts and cruises are described in our beautiful new 154 page brochure.*

*Call 01244 897 999.*

(16)

## Amer

134 page guide to America coverage of Florida, California, Arizona, the Deep South, New England, New York, Hawaii, Colorado and much more.

For THE guide to holidays across America call Premier Holidays on

01787 884031

E-Mail:premier@pubgw.hmco.co.uk

ABTA V0768 ATOL 2713

(17)

RENT SOME OF THE FINEST PRIVATE HOLIDAY HOMES IN EUROPE AND THE USA



Villas with a pool Luxury Apartments Country Clubs

★★★★★

Algarve • Costa Del Sol • Tenerife • South Carolina • Florida

*Leisure Estates International*

01858 433500 IATA

(18)

## Active Outdoor Holidays for ALL Ages!

(19)



- Small, international groups - never more than 13
- National Parks, Indian Lands, City Stops and more!
- Hiking, biking, horseback riding, canoeing, whitewater rafting and wildlife viewing
- Over 60 different itineraries - with tours from 7 days to 9 weeks starting at £382
- Original 18 - 35's brochure and "open-aged" Footloose programme - for adults of all ages
- All levels of adventure available!

For a brochure call TrekAmerica on:

01295 256777

http://www.trekamerica.co. ABTA V6828 AITO

## James Villa Holidays



has a wide choice of Villas with private Pools throughout the Algarve, Mallorca, Menorca, Costa Blanca, Lanzarote & Tenerife.

Discerning clients will appreciate our specialist knowledge and tailor-made holidays.

Now everyone can take a Villa Holiday with prices starting from £199.

For our 1998 Brochure call:

07000 845527

and let James take care of your Holiday!

ATOL 2737

(20)

## CAPITAL REGION USA



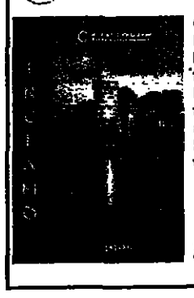
The Capital Region USA, encompassing Washington DC, Maryland and Virginia, is a diverse showcase of all that is best about America.

- cosmopolitan cities
- scenic mountains
- sandy beaches
- charming historic villages
- great theatres, museums and shopping

For a Capital Region USA guide call 01234 767 928

(21)

## C.I.E. TOURS International



Quench your thirst for Ireland and Northern Ireland. With escorted tours, motoring holidays, city breaks, fly drives, self catering, activity and group holidays available, we've got it covered.

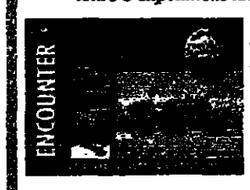
For your complimentary brochure

01306 824310

(22)

## ENCOUNTER

*ESCAPE NOW... on one of our Treks, Safari's, Rafting or Jungle Projects with 50 adventure tours & expeditions through*




ASIA AFRICA & the AMERICAS

Tel: 0171 370 6845

(23)

## CRUISING WITH A DIFFERENCE.




A Norwegian Coastal Voyage is a unique blend of cruising holiday. Artic adventure and breathtaking natural splendour onboard a working ship. Departing every day of the year, you'll find plenty of time for quiet reflection and relaxation, as well as a host of shore excursions and cultural experiences.

For a brochure ring: 01443 822 242

(24)

(25)




A wide selection of accommodation from small and friendly to five star luxury in *outstanding* locations around the Mediterranean. Prices start at just £165. Regional *departures*. Discounts of up to £100 per adult couple. Quote code TGBP

Panorama Holidays 01233 211998

## SIDMOUTH - EAST DEVON

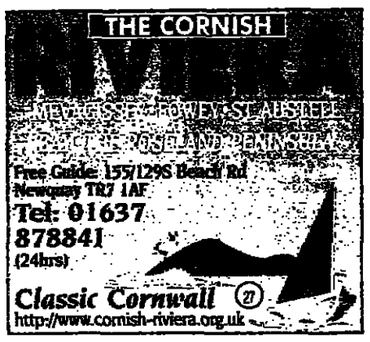


Nestling in a sheltered south-facing bay, set against dramatic red cliffs, you'll find the floral seaside town of Sidmouth famous for its fine Regency buildings, quaint shops and lovely gardens.

For a brochure telephone Sidmouth TIC on 01395 512424.

(26)

## THE CORNISH



Free Guide: 155/129S Bench Rd Newquay TR7 1AF

Tel: 01637 878841 (24hrs)

*Classic Cornwall*

http://www.cornish-riviera.org.uk

(27)

## SPECIAL SHORT BREAKS *in* EXETER

*Enjoy a Great Break or an Orginal Holiday at a superb selection of B&B's, hotels and self catering accommodation in Devon's Historic Capital.*

SPECIAL RATES *and* PACKAGES AVAILABLE




For free colour brochure:

Tel: 01392 265700

(28)

## North Devon

**A character of its own**

*Experience the moments, mystery and beauty of wild moors, beautiful river valleys, golden beaches and picturesque harbours.*

01271 336070 (24 hrs)

A Devon of difference

(29)

## SOUTH EAST CORNWALL LOOE & POLPERRO



FREE GUIDE

DEPT ST/TT, CDC, LOOSTOWE HOUSE, LISKEARD, CORNWALL PL14 3DZ

01579 341035 (24hr)

(30)

## Spectacular Coast and Countryside. Historic towns

● Salcombe ● Dartmouth ● Totnes
● Kingsbridge ● Modbury
● South Dartmoor

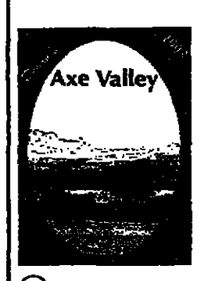
FREE GUIDE

01752 897035 (24HRS)

TIC (ST/T), IVYBRIDGE, PL21 0SL

(31)

## DEVON'S AXE VALLEY




For peace and tranquility, Seaton is the perfect seaside resort. Enjoy tram rides to historic Colyton or spectacular cliff walks to the fishing village of Beer. Explore the market town of Axminster where the famous carpets are made. The Axe Valley is ideal for birdwatching, coast and country walks.

For a brochure telephone 01297 34386 / 21660.

(32)

## HOLIDAYS VILLAS, APARTMENTS AND CHALETS TO LET!




The best selection of privately owned holiday homes in France, Italy, Spain, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland and Czech Republic. Prices from only £30 per person per week.

Tel: 0181 891 1294
Fax 0181 891 5331

(33)

## BEST WESTERN GETAWAY BREAKS




- Winter Breaks from £63 per person for 2 nights* with Britain's largest Hotel Group.
- Best choice for Leisure & Golf.
- Over 90 Award-Winning restaurants
- Children stay and travel FREE*
- BEST PRICES GUARANTEED

*See Brochure for details.

Call 0345 747474 for a Brochure.

(34)

## THE SUNDAY TIMES

## THE TIMES

*New Brochures 1998*

To receive up to six of the above brochures please indicate your choice in the boxes below.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms.....

Address:.....

Postcode:.....

Please return to: Times Brochures Service
P.O. Box 1
Tadcaster
N. Yorkshire
LS24 9XY

or fax your request on: 01937 530 369

*By February 11th 1998*

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further information and offers from Times Newspapers Ltd. or selected companies approved by us. ☐

TT44

## Cumbria THE LAKE DISTRICT



*...a myriad of lakes and tarns, mountains, fells, green valleys and magnificent coastal plains. So rich & varied, there is always something fresh to discover.*

**The Real Guide**

FREE 130 Page Cumbria Holiday Brochure

0990 133059

www.cumbria-the-lake-district.co.uk

(35)

## COUNTY DURHAM

Land of the Prince Bishops.



Short Breaks rich in fascinating Heritage and outstanding scenery.

Highlights include Durham Cathedral and Castle, the North Pennine Dales, Beamish and Barnard Castle.

Ideal Touring Centre for Northumbria

FREE HOLIDAY GUIDE

(Dept ST). Tel:(0191) 383 3354 (24 hours).

(36)

## EXMOUTH - EAST DEVON




Exmouth is ideal for a family holiday and boasts 2 miles of golden sandy beaches. It is world famous with bird watchers and ideal for coast and country walks.

For a free colour guide, please telephone Exmouth TIC 01395 222299.

(37)

## Inter Holidays



*Don't miss out on our early booking discounts! We offer hotels and appartments in Turkey to suit all your needs with regular flights from Gatwick, Manchester and the East Midlands at very affordable prices*

ATOL 4654

0171 287 1988

(38)

هكذا من الأصل



## SPECIAL INTEREST

**Cycling & Walking Holidays**
Leisurely tours through beautiful Bavaria & the Black Forest. Hand picked hotels. Bicycles provided. Luggage transported. Brochure from: Bayern Bicycle & Walking Tours (ST) The Blue Cross, Criston, Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 4HN
ABTA 01568 780 800

**SYRIA**
9 Days inc flt £1025
Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, Yemen, Ethiopia, Oman, India, Nepal
JASMIN
Escorted Journeys to the Near and Far East
Call 0181 778 0899
53-55 Bellevue Hill London SW12 9QR

## TURKEY

**SIMPLY Turkey**
Escape the mainstream with our unique range of rural cottages, villas with private pools and friendly hotels. Plus our flexible 'Wandering' programme, special interest holidays, gulet cruising and Istanbul city breaks.
0181 995 9323
ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO

**TURKEY**
Villas by quiet Olive Groves, sleep 4/6, some with pool or private pool, from £250pw per villa. SC or Choice cooks for you in pool side Villas. 0171 287 4920 Brochure

UNDISCOVERED Turkey, yacht, trekking, diving, & cultural cruising along the turquoise coast. Istanbul city breaks. Tailoring Turkey 01161 744 0474 ATOL 2228

**Rediscover Turkey**
Discover the real Turkey with Sapphire. Choose from our selection of small, owner-run hotels and apartments in unspoilt locations. Call free for details and a brochure.
0800 652 6520 24 HRS
Sapphire
ABTA V4697 ATOL 3027

## WINTER SPORTS

SIMPLY SKI - a superlative range of chalets in Val d'Isere, Courchevel, Meribel, La Plagne, Verbier and St Anton. Excellent children's holidays plus special offers on selected dates. Please call 0181 742 2541. Simply Ski, Chalet Holidays ABTA V1337 ATOL 1922 AITO.

SKI apt sle La Plagne, French Alps. Sips 4-6. Doorstep skiing. Eigh nhs 01892 529085.

ST GERVAIS / Megeve, 2 bed flats, Sly apts in pste chalet, slps 4-8. Sat TV/video. 01222 384461

VERBIER 3yr chalet, all en-suite. Many xtn & extras incl. from £210 pp. 0041 27 771 4972.

Don't pay too much for your travel insurance
Europe - 9 days SKI
£22
0171-375 0011
COLUMBUS

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**HIDEAWAYS**
COUNTRY & COASTAL COTTAGES OF CHARACTER AND DISTINCTION
West Country, Wessex, the Heart of England and the South East.
FREE Colour Brochure
01747 828000

**total freedom**
The freedom to do what you want, when you want.
Huge choice of cottages, lodges, farmhouses and holiday parks.
Ideal for couples and families all year round.
£20 deposit
BLAKES COTTAGES
CALL NOW FOR A BROCHURE quoting code DRB604
01455 85 25 45

**LODGES & HOLIDAY PARKS**
Britain's widest choice. Lodges in quiet locations – or holiday parks with indoor pools and plenty to do. Free colour brochure.
Phone 01502 502 601 Quote H1859
HOSEASONS
Or write: Hoseasons Holidays, Dept HH859, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 2LW

## WINTER SPORTS

LES ARCS - Peisey - 3 bed Catered Chalet, Charming mountain village 200 metres to lift - Le Source 01737 886286

LES ARCS S/C apts in beautiful chalet, slp 2/10. 0181 455 1897/00 33 479041338.

LES ARCS 1800, pvt bus apt next to lift, slps 6/8, 2 bath. From £500pw. Tel: 01372 842043

MERIBEL Excellent double family apart, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths very close Piste. Tel:01 6321924

MERIBEL Fully equipped apt, slps 4/6. Spectacular views. Close to slopes. Tel: 0151 625 2890.

MERIBEL Best location. Private chalet, 5 dbl bed rooms, jacuzzi, piano, games room. 21 Jan, 7 Feb, 14 March. Tel: 00 33 479085949 or 0171 3704443

MERIBEL les ALLUES Cosy s/c chalet to let, sleeps 6/7. pool, furnishy, loss beams and log fire. Tel. 01252 716906.

MERIBEL Traditional catered chalet, sleeps 8, superb food, log fire, homely atmosphere. Tel/Fax: 01252 843183.

MERIBEL Ski Rent. Best value Catered chalet slps 8+. 0113 279 1618/ 0467 612746.

MERIBEL Mottaret. 3 bed, 2 bath apt. Avail most weeks. From £500. Tel:01906 885229

MERIBEL Village. Luxury chalet. 4 dble bed, 4 bth, fully catered. Feb/Easter disc. 01225 892731

MERIBEL chalet S/C apt, slps 2-5, balcony, close lift. Tel 0845 345 3963 or 0038 477 010908

MOTTARET MERIBEL Well appointed apt. 2 bathroom. Sleeps 6-7. Jan 31-7 Feb, Mar 14-21 avail. 01422 846580

PORTES DU SOLEIL Ski this fabulous region from Les Gets in France. Carousel sports. Tel: 01245 400464.

TIGNES/VAL D'ISERE catered private chalet 50 yards from lifts. 5+1 available now, all en-suite bedrooms, sauna, pool, ski picking. 01476 565645

## WINTER SPORTS

**THE BEST SKI VALUE IN FRANCE**
Now you can book Pierre & Vacances quality apartments across the French Alps through Erna Low.
RESERVATIONS: 0171 584 2041
BROCHURE: 0171 584 7020
PIERRE & VACANCES
Erna Low
No.1 in Ski-Drive to France
www.ernalow.co.uk

**Ski Canadian Rockies**
BIG SNOW!!
Over 1 more new SNOW this week
• LAKE LOUISE
• BANFF
Prices from £219
0181-399 5144
ABTA V3476 ATOL 1694 IATA 870
Crystal

**SKI FROM £129**

| DESTINATION | DEPART | FROM | ACCOM. | 7 NTS FOR FROM |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| TIGNES | 24/1 | GATWICK | CHALET | £299 |
| PENHA DE CANAZEI | 25/1 | GATWICK | 2 PEAK HTL H/B | £129 |
| POIANA BRASOV | 25/1 | GATWICK | 2 PEAK HTL H/B | £159 |
| CLAVIERE | 25/1 | GLASGOW | 2 PEAK HTL H/B | £299 |
| SOLL | 31/1 | GATWICK | PENSION B/B | £189 |
| MERIBEL | 31/1 | GATWICK | SELF CATERING | £189 |
| WINTER PARK | 31/1 | GATWICK | SELF CATERING | £249 |
| MACUGNAGA | 1/2 | M'CHESTER | 2 PEAK HTL H/B | £199 |
| BANFF | 4/2 | M'CHESTER | 3 PEAK HTL H/B | £299 |
| KITZBUHEL | 7/2 | B'HAM | PENSION B/B | £219 |
| ALPE D'HUEZ | 7/2 | GATWICK | CHALET | £269 |
| LA THUILE | 8/2 | GATWICK | 2 PEAK B/B | £239 |
| BOROVETS | 8/2 | M'CHESTER | 3 PEAK HTL H/B | £169 |
| PAS DE LA CASA | 8/2 | GATWICK | 2 PEAK HTL H/B | £269 |
| LA TANIA | 14/2 | SELF DRIVE | CHALET | £389 |
| NIEDERAU | 21/2 | M'CHESTER | PENSION B/B | £299 |
| VAL THORENS | 21/2 | GATWICK | CHALET | £449 |
| MACUGNAGA | 22/2 | GATWICK | 2 PEAK HTL H/B | £299 |

Self Catering and Room Only based on maximum occupancy. All offers subject to availability.
For even more holidays see Teletext page 268, visit our Website on http://www.neilson.co.uk or call now!
neilson
0990 14 14 14

## USA & CANADA

**ALL THE BEST OF CANADA**
All types of holidays: tours, cruises, city-breaks, outdoor experiences and excursions. All attractions. All year round. All arrangements: flights, hotels, car hire, even theatre tickets.
Free colour Brochure.
All Canada Travel
The Canada Specialists
Phone 0990 434 434 Quote ACA234
Or write: All Canada, Dept. ACA234, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR32 2LW

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**Wales England • Wales Scotland • Ireland**
Over 3,500 Independent COTTAGES
Book direct with owners
01271 336028

**HELPFUL HOLIDAYS**
Our Country and - covering Huge variety of over 350 cottages houses even a fort
All strictly described & star rated
Colour brochure
01647 433535

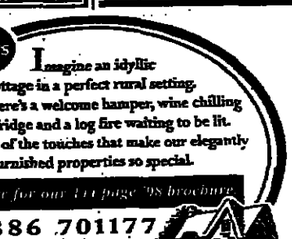
**First Choice For Over 600 Dream Cottages Throughout The UK!**
01751 47 55 47
First Choice

**HOSEASONS COUNTRY COTTAGES**
Hand-picked cottages throughout Britain. Coastal, riverside and countryside locations. Some with swimming pools, games rooms. Free colour brochure.
Phone 01502 502 602 Quote C4561
Or write: Hoseasons Holidays, Dept C4561, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 0TF

**English Country Cottages**
AN UNRIVALLED selection of holiday properties of superb character and quality in the loveliest areas of England.
Free 436 page colour brochure.
RING (0990) 851111
QUOTE EM579 (24 Hrs)
OR WRITE: ENGLISH COUNTRY COTTAGES, DEPT. EM579, P.O. BOX 18, EARL SHILTON, LEICESTER LE9 8ZY.



**Rural Retreats**
Imagine an idyllic cottage in a perfect rural setting. Inside there's a welcome hamper, wine chilling in the fridge and a log fire waiting to be lit. Just a few of the touches that make our elegantly furnished properties so special.
Call now for our 144 page '98 brochure
01386 701177
http://www.bl.com/rural



**IT'S THE ONLY Brochure YOU'LL NEED**
• Widest choice - Over 4,000 cottages to choose from throughout Britain and Ireland
• 1000's of 1995 prices held. Holidays from £85 per week and £60 per Short Break per property
• Pets welcome at most cottages
CALL TODAY FOR YOUR 576 PAGE BROCHURE
Quoting Code DRC204
Country Holidays
01455 852505

**Welcome COTTAGE HOLIDAYS**
AT OVER 1200 LOCATIONS
PRICES PER PROPERTY PER WEEK
• Scotland from £107
• Northumberland from £142
• Yorkshire Dales from £109
• Lake District from £115
• Peak District from £136
• Wales from £107
• Cotswolds from £107
• Norfolk/Suffolk from £114
• West Country from £117
PETS GO FREE
DISCOUNTS FOR 2 PERSONS
• Brochure from £209
01756 702200
168 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE
Lines open 9am-9pm Sun.-Fri. 9am-7pm Sat.

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**WYE LEA MANOR**
Is a luxurious cottage complex with cottages sleeping 2/6
Internal complimentary leisure centre, restaurant and bar complement to our view. Situated at Bosbury, Herefordshire.
Our colour brochure reveals all!
Tel: 01989 562580

**classic cottages**
Just for the discerning
Free brochure featuring 350 selected West Country cottages
01326 565555
http://www.classic.co.uk

## ACTIVITY HOLIDAYS

**WATERSPORTS BEACH CLUBS**
11 beautiful locations in Greece and Turkey, all with pools, great food and accommodation, free dinghy sailing, windsurfing, yachting, waterskiing, tennis and volleyball available at most clubs. From just £317pp 1 week flights inc. Call Sunsail on 01705 222 222 (24 hrs).

**Intoxicating....Idyllic**
Marcelle Cruise Date-Tel
Explore Devon, Cornwall, Brittany, Scilles & Channel Is aboard 100ft trad ketch. Enjoy glorious scenery, fine food and good company! No experience necessary.
01803 834300

## CORNWALL & DEVON

AMAZING value quality cottages across Devon. Over 100 page colour brochure. 01756 702220

AUTHENTIC cornish farmhouses, idyllic setting, Aga kit, log fire, between St Michaels Mount & St Ives, slps 8. 01736 740219.

BEAUTIFUL COTTAGES Roseland, St Mawes 2-8 nr beach, slps 2 HT Rosges 01872 501214

BEST selection of Tourist Board approved holiday cottages on North Devon's National Trust coastline and Exmoor. Marsdon Cottage Holidays 01271 812777 (24 hrs)

BETWEEN Padstow & Newquay Superb beached charm tried cot slps 4. Brochure 01803 212226.

CADEWITH, Lizard. Cottages in unspoilt fishing cove for 2-12. Cheap breaks. 01326 290764

CLASSIC Cottages. Over 350 select cottages in the West Country just for the discerning. Brochure 01326 565555

**CORNWALL**
ENJOY THE COASTAL BEAUTY OF GLORIOUS CORNWALL
We have over 350 quality cottages to choose from
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC214
01455 852505

**Cornish COTTAGE HOLIDAYS**
BROCHURE 01326 564992
ENQUIRIES 01326 573808

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**JANUARY SPECIAL**
4 nights from £79
Bed, breakfast & evening meal
Large seafront hotel, entertainment, indoor pool, jacuzzi, sauna.
*FREE CAR FERRY*
Sandringham Hotels
Seafront, Sandown, Isle of Wight
Tel: 01 983 406655
*3 nights February from £79.

**English Country Cottages**
AN UNRIVALLED choice throughout Hampshire. Free 436 page colour brochure.
RING (0990) 851111
QUOTE EM576 (24Hrs)

**DORSET**
EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF THE DORSET COAST
And stay in one of 150 quality cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC212
01455 852505

## CORNWALL & DEVON

COASTAL Moorland & Waterside properties in delightful settings incl Manor Houses, thatched cottages & bungalows, retreats for two, West Country Cottages, 01626 333478.

COLWORTH Country Cottages in heart of Countryside, 32 pets. Available now. 01503 220333

CORNWALL Specialists. Choose from over 350 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC205)

CORNWALL & DEVON. 300 cottages throughout. Reasonable prices. Tel 01752 260711

CORNWALL Cottages around Mullion Cove & the Lizard Peninsula. Tel:01326 240315

DEVON Specialists. Choose from over 430 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC208)

DEVON'S Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. Phone now!! 01764 702203

FOWEY AREA Prestigious properties with harbourside or sea views. Brochure 01726 814263

FREE Colour guide to the 500 best value cottages in Devon (01271) 374322

GREAT Location. Valley near South Devon Coast. Inground pool, tennis, games room. Short breaks. 01548 821372

IDYLLIC cottage, Beds 2 sailor, sleeps 7, cot/high chair, 2nd home, all mod cons TV, Video, Duvets, Cosy Coal Fire, Marvellous Surfing. Tel:01243 784026.

ISLES OF SCILLY St Mary's. Tastefully converted cottage, sleeps 6. Very comfortable family home. Own bay. Brochure available Jones@stmarys.demon.co.uk 0171 4287142

POLPERRO Just for 2 - luxury mews cottage, S/C, linen set in 450 acres, log fire, safe bay. No pets. Tel: 01503 272214

PORT ISAAC Fishing village. Sleeps 10. Beach, Cliffs, Pub. Avail all year. 01264 630985

SALCOMBE Lge Farmhouse, slps 12, 3 bths, enclosed gdn, close A & Beds welcome. 01645 842989

SLPS 12 superb granite farm hse, 5th Cornish, setting 9ft, open hse, antiques, log fires, bult' accn, from £450pw, pool, col brochure. 01675 443566.

ST IVES Studio right on penthouse beach. Slps 2/5, also self kpt for 10. 0171 4574969.

THE FINEST in Cornwall, English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2269.

W.DARTMOOR super mod cottage, well hsekpt CH, Superb outlook. Incl xmas. 01647 24289.

**The freedom of Cornwall**
Cottages, lodges, farmhouses - ideal for families & couples
BLAKES COTTAGES
quote code DRB608
01455 852545

**Cornish Traditional Cottages**
Self-catering cottages on both coasts of Cornwall and on Scilly
For your FREE brochure
PHONE
0990 134967

## COTSWOLDS

CHELTENHAM Brand new beautifully decorated 2 bedroom penthouse apartment with private lift and parking in prestigious square 1 min from promenade. Luxury fitted kitchen. Tel: 01242 251448

ROSS-ON-WYE Country House, 8 bed, secluded, lovely views, fully equipped. 01989 770148.

THE FINEST in the Cotswolds. English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2263.

## CUMBRIA

The LAKES and FELLS of CUMBRIA
Dales Holiday Cottages 01756 799821

## DORSET, HANTS., & I.O.W.

DORSET & New Forest Specialists. Choose from over 220 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC210)

THE FINEST in Dorset, English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2260

DORSET COASTAL COTTS. Old Chap, much loved home. Great holiday. 01305 852998.

WEST DORSET Coastal Manor House, sleeps 10. Weeks & wks. Tel: 01308 456288.

**JANUARY SPECIAL**
4 nights from £79
Bed, breakfast & evening meal
Large seafront hotel, entertainment, indoor pool, jacuzzi, sauna.
*FREE CAR FERRY*
Sandringham Hotels
Seafront, Sandown, Isle of Wight
Tel: 01 983 406655
*3 nights February from £79.

**English Country Cottages**
AN UNRIVALLED choice throughout Hampshire. Free 436 page colour brochure.
RING (0990) 851111
QUOTE EM576 (24Hrs)

**DORSET**
EXPERIENCE THE BEAUTY OF THE DORSET COAST
And stay in one of 150 quality cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC212
01455 852505

## EAST ANGLIA

EAST ANGLIA Specialists. Choose from over 460 properties. 01455 852505 (LRC207)

N.NORFOLK COAST Charming 18th C Cottage, slps 6, fully equd, Tel:01780 482099.

NORFOLK COUNTRY COTTAGES. Over 100 holiday properties. Slp 2-10. Tel: 01603 871872

NORTH NORFOLK 3 bed farmhouse near Holkham. 2 miles sea. Superb accom. Tennis court. Open fires. Avail 1998. From£1,250pw. 0171 7929790.

THE FINEST in East Anglia. English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2262

VINE LODGE North Norfolk. 14 cottages sleep 2/7 in glorious 8 acre grounds. Heated indoor pool, sauna etc. Cosy inns, teagues, children's small animal farm. Log fires, pets, short breaks at idlly prices. For Brochure call 01263 838262.

**Norfolk Country Cousins**
BETTER THAN EVER
Join us in Norfolk - our holiday cottages are always for you.
Call NOW for a brochure
01692 650286

## EAST ANGLIA

**BOATING in BRITAIN**
For the widest choice of hand-picked cruisers on the Norfolk Broads.
Phone 01502 502 602 Quote B7437
HOSEASONS

## EIRE

IRELAND Specialists. Choose from over 110 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC209)

IRELAND 400 independent cottages. Book direct. FREE Brochure. Stillwell. 01271 336028

## HOLIDAYS AFLOAT

BRITABYS Boat sold drive motorcruiser holidays. Widest choice. Beginners most welcome. Tel: 01908 736425.

LAZY DAYS AFLOAT. Award winning inland boats throughout Britain. Early booking offers. Brochure tel:0121 445 2909.

**BLAKES Boating**
CRUISERS NARROWBOATS YACHTS • HOTEL BOATS
BOOK NOW ONLY £50 INITIAL PAYMENT
DIAL-A-BROCHURE ANY TIME 01603 784458

## EIRE

IRISH Country Holidays 1998 the premier choice. 300 individual cots all tourist board approved Farmhouse, hide, boating hols & home farm centre hols. Many welcome pets. 01502 560 688 (24 hrs).

LEISURE BREAKS Farmhouses, SC House Riding, touring convenient, golf. By sea or air. ATOL 2638. All Ireland. 0161 734 5200

One and two week holidays. Ideal for families, groups, couples. Blakes Cottages 01455 852545. Quote LRE201.

SHAMROCK COTTAGES. 286 select individual cottages in popular locations. Free Prices. ATOL Cert 2hm 01823 681060.

**IRELAND**
TAKE DELIGHT IN THE MAGNIFICENT SURROUNDINGS OF THE EMERALD ISLE
And stay in one of 110 beautiful cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC216
01455 852220

**Take a Breath of Fresh Eire.**
We offer a magical choice of delightful holiday properties in Cork, Kerry, Clare, Galway and Mayo. From a converted coach house to a castle. Free full colour brochure.
RING (0990) 851166
QUOTE GM242 (24 Hrs)
OR WRITE TO: COUNTRY COTTAGES IN IRELAND, DEPT. GM242, P.O. BOX 18, EARL SHILTON, LEICESTER LE9 8ZY.



## LAKE DISTRICT

AMAZING value Lake District cottages. Over 106 page colour brochure. 01756 702229

BOOT Eskdale. Award winning character cottage in Lakeland fmest valley. 01946 723100

CUMBRIAN COTTAGES. 200 Lakeland cottages. FTB required. New Brochure available. 01228 599960

LAKE DISTRICT Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. 01756 702208

LAKE DISTRICT Specialists. Choose from over 320 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC202)

LANGDALE S. 4 bed luxury homes, inc leisure club with pool. 0161 904 9465.

RATHER special cottages for two in a secret country of southern Lakeland. Tel 015395 36475.

THE FINEST in the Lakes, English Country Cottages. Tel:0990 851111. REF EM2261.

ULLSWATER Lux apt for 2, n/s, Jan-March £95pw all inclusive. Tel 017684 86226.

WASDALE s/c cottages in 7 acres. Winter breaks, GCH. Slps 2-4 and 6-7. 019467 26225

**LAKE DISTRICT**
VISIT THE PICTURESQUE LAKE DISTRICT
And stay in one of over 320 quality cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC211
01455 852505

## LONDON

KENSINGTON Superior Serviced apartments. Tel: 0181 451 3094 Fax: 0181 459 4422

PUTNEY V luxury furnished 2 bed flat, from 17th Jan to 10th Feb, £350pw or weekend let at £150. Tel: 0181 7883943.

SAVE Up to 50% on your London hotel bills. Quality hotels. All centrally located, 2* to 5*. From £28. 0181 770 0123 The Hotel Directory.

## PEAK DISTRICT

**Peak Cottages**
... the friendly local service
• Quality self catering accommodation in the Derbyshire Dales & Peaks
• Whether you are a walker, climber, potholer, antiquarian, historian, naturalist, gardener or sportsman... Derbyshire has it all
Brochure:
0114-262-0777

## HOLIDAYS AFLOAT

**BOATING in BRITAIN**
The widest choice. The Norfolk Broads, Canals of England and Wales, Thames & Wey, Fens and Scotland. Free colour brochure.
Phone 01502 502 602 Quote B7436
HOSEASONS

## NORTHUMBRIA

AMAZING value Northumbria cottages. Over 106 page colour brochure. 01756 702232

HERITAGE COAST 2 S/C cottages, Slps 6 & 8. Picturesque village. Brochure 01665 578625

NORTHUMBRIA'S Welcome Cottages. 1998 over colour brochure. 01756 702217

NORTHUMBRIA Specialists. Choose from over 180 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC201)

SUPERB Cottages Northumbria, Wallace, Lakes, Peaks, Sykes Cottages 01244 345700.

**NORTHUMBRIA**
EXPERIENCE THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF NORTHUMBRIA
Choose from one of over 180 idyllic cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC210
01455 852505

## SCOTLAND

AMAZING value cottages in Scotland. Over 106 page colour brochure. 01756 702230

ARGYLL Immaculately restored croft cottage in 2 acre wood on shore Loch Fyne. 1 child twin, own bathroom. 0171 359 8184

ARGYLL Remote cottage by loch Sunnyside, slps 6, fr. £160/ £230pw incl. 01243 379733.

BORDERS Quality cottages, superb private road location. Tel: 01387 381360

COTTAGES, farmhouses, lodges. Spring offers. Many holidays £20 initial deposit. Blakes Cottages 01455 852545, LRE605

FORT WILLIAM area. Exceptional West Highland Farmhouse, own grounds. Superb loch views. Sleeps 7, 4 baths, all amenities. Details 0171 7364684

ISLE OF SKY Beautiful cottage by Caillins on shore of Loch Slapachan, boat available, slps 4. Brochure: 01478 650322.

**The freedom of Scotland**
Cottages, lodges, farmhouses - ideal for families & couples
BLAKES COTTAGES
quote code STB607
01455 852545

## SCOTLAND

DISCOVER THE HIGHLANDS AND LOWLANDS OF SCOTLAND
And choose from over 550 quality cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC210
01455 852505

## PEAK DISTRICT

BEE CHATSWORTH Quality cottages. Slps 2-6. Excellent loc. 01246 582000/0114 2302737

PEAK DISTRICT Specialists. Choose from over 250 cottages 01455 852505 (LRC204)

**PEAK DISTRICT**
DISCOVER THE BEAUTIFUL SURROUNDINGS OF THE PEAK DISTRICT
Choose from over 250 quality cottages
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC211
01455 852505



**Unloch a cottage in Scotland**
EXCEPTIONAL holiday properties in the most beautiful areas of Scotland. From stone-built cottages and gamekeepers' lodges to historic mansions and grand ancestral homes.
FREE 88 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 851133
QUOTE SM305 (24 Hrs)
OR WRITE: COUNTRY COTTAGES IN SCOTLAND, DEPT. SM305, P.O. BOX 18, EARL SHILTON, LEICESTER LE9 8ZY.

## WALES

ABERSOCH. Super rural cottage, slps 6. Gch/shwrm, sea views. Gdn. 01758 712489.

BEAUTIFUL quality properties around splendid Welsh coast. Log fires. Linen provided. Pets welcome Free Call for Colour brochure Quality Cottages 01348 837873

**The Gower, Snowdonia, Pembroke Coast.**
AN UNRIVALLED choice of holiday properties of character and quality in the loveliest areas of Wales – from a farmhouse to a watermill.
FREE 68 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE
RING (0990) 851122
QUOTE WM211 (24 Hrs)
OR WRITE: WELSH COUNTRY COTTAGES, DEPT. WM211, P.O. BOX 18, EARL SHILTON, LEICESTER LE9 8ZY.



## PETS WELCOME

**HOSEASONS COUNTRY COTTAGES**
Pets welcome – hundreds of cottages in superb walking country. Free colour brochure.
Phone 01502 502 602 Quote C4564

## WALES

BRECON Beacons. Over 100 s/c cottages some sleep 20 Many less than £250 pw high season. Short brks avail 01874 676446

HAY ON WYE Top quality 15C mill, some grounds, stream, waterfall, 2 bedrooms, superb location. Tel:01497 821972.

NEWPORT Pembrokeshire, large beach house, slps 2 families, available 1998 inc Aug, sailing, walking. 01386 725289

WALES Specialists. Choose from over 370 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC206)

N PEMBS. C18th qtry cott, slps 4, coast/walks, log stove. Fr £180 pw. Col brochure 01239 621292

**PEMBROKESHIRE**
A superb selection of quality character cottages in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. All properties furnished to the highest standards.
Please now for free colour brochure
01239-881397
Stop collecting brochures... Start collecting memories
450 luxury cottages voted "Best in Wales" with a welcome as warm as the sunshine.
Coastal Cottages of Pembrokeshire
Tel: 01437 765765

**WALES**
EXPLORE THE COAST, HILLS AND VALLEYS OF HISTORIC WALES
Country Holidays
CALL US NOW FOR YOUR 1998 BROCHURE Quoting DRC210
01455 852505

**PEMBROKESHIRE**
A superb selection of quality character cottages in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. All properties furnished to the highest standards.
Phone now for free colour brochure
01239-881397

## YORKSHIRE

COTTAGES Yorkshire including Moors, idyllic stand Full Col.Broch. 01845 597630.

AMAZING value Yks Dales cottages. New 106 page colour broch. 01756 702231

HAWORTH (Bronte village) Cosy cottage for 2 nr village centre & wild beauty of moors. Fr £99pw inc. 0171 794 1727.

NORTH YORKS MOORS Newton Dale. Comfortable farmhouse, slps 8, superb location in National Park. 01234 240296.

YORK City Centre. Nov-March £20pp B&B £30pp D&B. Superb food, for single/couple. All facilities. Car park. Abbots Mews Hotel 01904 634866.

SUPERB Cottages York Dales, Northumbria, Lakes, Peaks, Sykes Cottages 01244 345700.

YORKSHIRE Dales Welcome Cottages. 1998 colour brochure. 01756 702209

YORKSHIRE Specialists. Choose from over 260 cottages. 01455 852505 (LRC211)

## U.K. HOLIDAYS

**IRISH FERRIES HOLIDAYS.**
The biggest range of great value self-catering, motoring and short break holidays to Ireland.
10%* off most holidays by sea booked before 28th February 1998.
IRISH FERRIES
FOR A BROCHURE 01233 211 911 – BOOKINGS 0990 17 00 00

**THE SPORT & CRAFT MANOR - 01837 53053**
**MANOR HOUSE & ASHBURY HOTELS, W.DEVON**
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTELS - Superb views, service, food, lounges + 200 acres. UNIQUE CRAFT CENTRE - Full Tuition - Pottery, (Wheel & Model), Candles, Glass Engraving, Enamelling, Painting, Picture Framing. HEATED Pools, Saunas, Squash, Badminton, Snooker Archery, Bowls, Tennis, Games Room - ALL INDOORS & FREE OUTDOOR Bowls, Tennis, Guided Moor Walks - ALL FREE. Line Dancing, Skittles, Live Music, "Casino", Quiz etc.
GOLF 18 GOLF 18 GOLF 18
FREE GOLF ON 2 X 18 HOLE LONG COURSES + PAR 3
JANUARY & Start FEBRUARY - 7 night FREE Midweek + FREE lunch
MID MARCH - 4 nights Midweek £127/137; 3 nights w'end £114/123 DBB
MID MAY - 4 nights Midweek £167/176; 3nights w'end £133/148 DBB
MID JULY - 4 nights Midweek £178/187; 3 nights w'end £144/158 FrBd
EXCEPTIONAL SPORT & CRAFT FAMILY PROGRAMME
SUPERB INDOOR BOWLS, BADMINTON, TENNIS, SQUASH



**Come to the heart of Britain's wonderful woodlands for a holiday or short break. We have cabin sites in forests throughout the UK. Prices from £99 per cabin.**
Forestry Commission
0131 334 0066 Quote ref: ST

**U.K. COTTAGES from £94 per property**
Scotland
Northumberland
Yorkshire Dales
Lake District
Peak District
Wales
East Anglia
Cotswolds
West Country

**IRISH COTTAGES from £209 (INCL. FERRY) per property**
Donegal
Galway
Clare
Waterford
Wexford
Wicklow
Cork
Kerry

PETS GO FREE
DISCOUNTS FOR 2 PERSONS
Ferry Crossing Inc.
01756 702225
UK & EMERALD COTTAGE HOLIDAYS
108 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE

**Wake up to the American Dream.**



Two weeks' rental of a traditional New England house including car hire costs from £1,252 low season and from £1,554 high season. Choose from a superb collection of carefully selected coastal, lakeside and inland properties in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts (including Cape Cod).
FREE 116 PAGE COLOUR BROCHURE, CALL (0990) 143686 (24 Hrs) Quote A094. Or write to: New England Country Homes, Dept. A094, P.O. Box 2025, Pulborough, RH20 1YQ.
NEW ENGLAND COUNTRY HOMES
ATOL 2433

## THE VELVET NORFOLK HAT

SALE £22.95 Plus £2p&p



The very best velvet has been used to make this classic winter hat. The wide brim offers protection from the weather but still allows the hat to be folded flat for travel. Warm and wonderfully soft. Hand washable £22.95 plus £2 p&p. Colours: Chocolate Brown, Ruby Red, Bottle Green and Black. Sizes: S54–55cm, M 56-57cm, L 58cm and XL 59cm

For 24hr Despatch 0171 371 8998
Norfolk Hats, Unit 7, The Talina Centre, Bagleys Lane, London SW6 2BW
Fax 0171 371 7011

*Made In England*

*Please specify if you do not wish to receive details of further offers*

## The 'Sheila Maid'©

CAST IRON AND NATURAL PINE CLOTHES AIRER
Everything you need to install this "Energy Saving" Airer.
48 hr Despatch
Home Deliveries Worldwide.
Trade Account Enquiries UK/Overseas (Dept K)



THE TRADITIONAL CURVED SHAPE
7ft / 2m FULL WIDTH CAST IRON RACK ENDS
4 FINE, HAND FINISHED ROUNDED EDGE RAILS.
NATURAL JUTE PULLEY CORD, SCREWS & PLUGS.
RACK ENDS, PULLEYS, CLEAT IN 6 COLOURS.

The "ORIGINAL" (Coatings Grey Metal Clear Coated)

| 57" 535 | 68 537 | 78 539 | 88 541 |
|---|---|---|---|

COLOURS (Coatings Red, Blue, Green, Black, White)

| 57" 533 | 68 535 | 78 537 | 88 539 |
|---|---|---|---|

POSTAGE +RACKING ADD £3.
Standard Beds from £7. Extended.

THE DOMESTIC PARAPHERNALIA Co. Dept. I.
Unit 15, Mosley Business Centre, Dock Rd, Lytham, Lancs FY8 5AJ England
Tel 01253 736394 24hrs. Fax 01253 795191

## This old PENNY RED AND approx. 500 STAMPS FREE



We will send you the famous British PENNY RED (issued 130 years ago), plus about 500 guaranteed assorted stamps on paper, and latest G.B. catalogue FREE. Many scarce stamps found in our packets, mostly G.B. from Xmas TV and other country approvals. Our famous 8-in-1 Approvals will also be sent on a buy or return basis.
THE STAMP CLUB, (Dept. TTD, Poole, BH14 7DE.

## GENUINE BIRTHDAY NEWSPAPERS

From largest archives stored from 1642-1997. Sunday Newspapers from 1915. Ready for presentation. Same day dispatch.
REMEMBER WHEN
520 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR0 4RR.
0181 688 6323
or call FREE 0500 520 000

## FROM £85 POST PAID

100% Wool Dressing Gowns
Tartan and Plain
ANY SIZE, ANY LENGTH
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN
G-I-N-S SHIRTS
FREEPOST B
TH1980 KDP14 7DB
Phone/Fax 01947 880187
or E-mail gin_shirts@virgin.net
For BROCHURE & ORDER/MAIL PAYMENT FORM
ACCESS / VISA



## Condoms DIRECT

16 FREE CONDOMS WITH EVERY ORDER
DISCREET MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
DISCREET HOME DELIVERY
SAMPLE PACK
5 CONDOMS £1.99
12 CONDOMS £3.99
24 CONDOMS £5.99
36 CONDOMS £7.99
48 CONDOMS £9.99
CHEQUES/PO'S TO Condoms DIRECT
Dept TTIMES PO BOX 72 WORTHING BN14 8BY
TEL: 07000 472337
(07000 472337)

## SHOPAROUND

ALSO APPEARS ON PAGE 20

TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SECTION PLEASE CONTACT DOROTHY AYNSLEY ON

0171 680 6861

## THE Loden COLLECTION

Traditional style and natural warmth

CLASSIC LODEN COATS AND SHOOTING JACKETS FROM £195. ALSO BREECHES, JACKETS, SKIRTS, HATS AND BAGS IN HUNTING GREEN AND NAVY BLUE.

Tel 017683 53118
FAX 017683 53811 OR WRITE FOR YOUR FREE COLOUR BROCHURE



Born for Loden
The White House · Appleby in Westmorland
Cumbria CA16 6XF

## MORIARTI'S SOLID PINE STORAGE BEDS



For NEW colour brochure PHONE
(01233) 850214

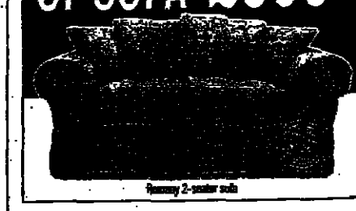
## ANTIQUE REPLICA OFFICE FURNITURE

*Made by Mastercraftsmen*



70 SCHOOL CLOSE, QUEEN ELIZABETH AVE., BURGESS HILL, [illegible] WEST SUSSEX RH15 9XR
Mon-Sat 9 am – 5.30 pm Tel: 01444 245577
BRITISH ANTIQUE REPLICAS

## A LOT OF SOFA £399



Ramsay 2-seater sofa

01495 243999 FOR A FREE COLOUR BROCHURE
Kirkdale Furniture, TIM1701R
Viaduct Works, Crumlin Road, Crumlin, Gwent NP1 4PL
Kirkdale



## A SHIRT by SEYMOURS is individually made to measure

EXACT SLEEVE LENGTH
CORRECT BODY SIZE
CHOICE OF COLLAR SHAPES
CHOICE OF FRONT STYLES
CHOICE OF CUFF STYLES
CHOICE OF SHOULDER FIT
CHOICE OF BODY LENGTH
CHOICE OF 400 FABRICS
TAILS OR SQUARE BOTTOMS
FULL STANDARD or SLIM FITS
AFTER SALES SERVICE
IMPECCABLY HAND CUT & SEWN
And of course
THE FINEST QUALITY



ALSO MADE TO MEASURE CLASSICAL LADIES SHIRT BLOUSES.
*WRITE OR PHONE for 400 fabric samples and our colour brochure.*
Seymour Shirts EST. 1975
FREEPOST, Dept XX, Bradford BD1 1BR. Tel: 01274 726520

## SALE-SAVE £5

SUPERIOR LEATHER ALASKA 2000

THERMAL LINED TWIN ZIP BOOT

*Check these luxury features*
- *Technically advanced non-crack TPR soles*
- *Treated leather to withstand winter conditions*
- *Genuine YKK zips -*

*The World's Best!*



REAL LEATHER

TWIN ZIP FEATURE FOR EASY ACCESS



**BLACK or BROWN SIZES 6 to 13.**

Generous fitting, easy access ALASKA 2000 is only available from Clifford James. This superior specification luxury genuine leather boot should not be confused or compared with boots of inferior materials. The addition of a snug thermal pile lining brings protective warmth throughout winter. The sole features a special reverse grip tread for stability in adverse conditions.

SIZES 6,7,8,9,10,11,12 & 13.
COLOURS – Black or Brown.
FREE REPLACEMENT THERMAL INSOLES with every pair.

WAS £24.99
£19.99
FREE DELIVERY

WE DESPATCH ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY But please notify us only if your order has NOT been received within 21 days. Money refunded or size changed for complete satisfaction. Quote code AL (Black) or ALR (Brown) and the size required.

THE SMART WINTER COMMUTER BOOT

Send cheque/PO's payable to Clifford James or your Mastercard/Visa/Switch number
*Occasionally our customer lists are offered to carefully screened companies whose products or services may be of interest. Should these mailings not be required please advise us.*

CREDIT CARD HOLDERS CAN ORDER ON
0990 230303
7 DAYS 24 HOURS

Clifford James
T8 HIGH STREET, RIPLEY, SURREY GU23 6AF
*Callers 9.00a.m.-5.30p.m. Mon-Sats*

## BEST EVER JANUARY SALE

UP TO 40% OFF
+ INTEREST FREE CREDIT + FREE UK DELIVERY



EVERY CONCEIVABLE SIZE OF VICTORIAN STYLE DINING TABLE – ONE HUNDRED DIFFERENT STYLES OF CHAIRS



EVERY SIZE & STYLE OF GEORGIAN DINING TABLE — EVERY ANTIQUE STYLE OF DESK IN EVERY CONCEIVABLE SIZE

*The worlds largest display of fine English solid Mahogany, Walnut, Yew & Birdseye Maple antique replica furniture made by mastercraftsmen to a standard unsurpassed this century.*

*Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm*

BRITISH ANTIQUE REPLICAS
52 SCHOOL CLOSE, QUEEN ELIZABETH AVE., BURGESS HILL (BETWEEN GATWICK & BRIGHTON) WEST SUSSEX RH15 9RX
Tel: 01444 245577

It's Great Fun... your feet won't touch the ground!!
Sensational LOW-IMPACT-TECHNoEXERCISE means...
Big reduction on BONE JARRING damage to your joints & tendons

AIR PACER makes it easy to keep those NEW YEAR'S promises to get yourself in shape again... FAST!

## AIR PACER mr. motivator says

*"AIR PACER has got to be the perfect exerciser. It's much easier on your joints & tendons & just a few minutes a day helps you get FIT, HEALTHY & SLIMMER•!"*

The Exciting New Exerciser that's taken America by absolute storm ...*it's like walking or jogging on clouds!*

Before you are tempted to pay as much as £299 for similar exercisers ...try AIR PACER at this Special Introductory price for all readers of THE TIMES



"Test it at home for 14 days..."

Yes, really put it through it's paces. If you are not delighted with the quality, value and above all the Great Exercise, just return for an instant no quibble refund

"Great for all the family"

£149.99
Delivered Direct to your Door FREE OF CHARGE

The quiet,rhythmic and fluid action creates a great aerobic exercise. You'll soon feel so much fitter & look so much better. AND it greatly lessens the bone jarring stress on your joints and tendons that comes with walking or jogging on hard ground.

Quality made throughout, this "Professional Gym Model" AIR PACER is exhilarating, serious fun! Improves circulation and those calories burn off FAST while your body gets fitter and healthier... all in the comfort of your own home. No need to overdo it.. just a few minutes each day is what your body needs. Send coupon today or ring us.

Strengthens abdominal muscles for a FLATTER TUMMY

Firms those buttocks for a "TIGHTER BUM" and SHAPES your waist & hips

MR. MOTIVATOR SPECIAL OFFER

Post Coupon to: Petworth House Ltd (Dept. TT03), Polesden Lane, Ripley, Nr. Woking, Surrey GU23 6LR. (Cakes welcome at these silverprices.)
Please send me ..... AIR PACER(S) @ £149.99 Carriage FREE. (UK Mainland only) Delivery normally within 5-7 days
I understand I may try at home for 14 days under your no quibble money back guarantee. I enclose my cheque/PO for £.....
(payable to Petworth House Ltd) or charge my credit card
No.....
Expiry Date.....
Signature.....
Name (please print).....
Address.....
Post Code.....
Daytime Telephone No to help our delivery driver.....

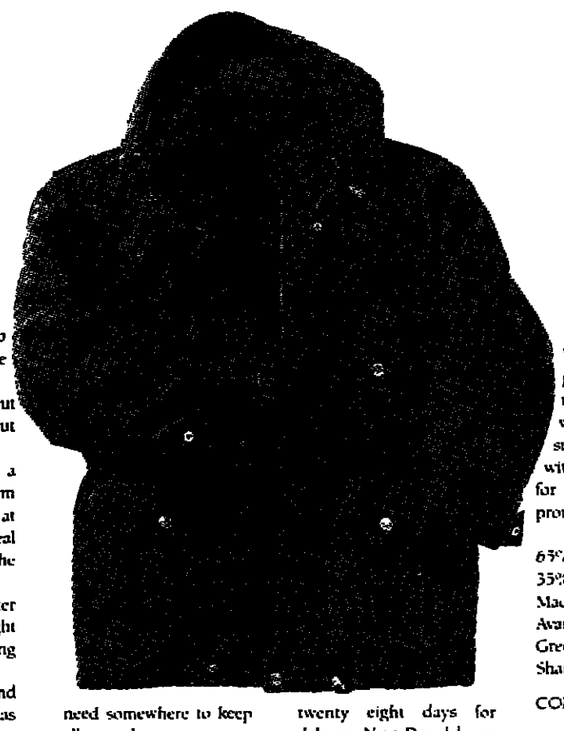
* In conjunction with a calorie controlled diet

FREE Fitness Programme
Sturdy, Stable & Superbly Engineered
Independent Double Leg Support
Oversized, Extra Safe Foot Plates
Tough Steel Construction for Extra Long Life
Easy to Move and FOLDSAWAY!

FREE ELECTRONIC COMPUTER. If your order within the next 14 days you will receive it & receive your attention. If absent, Calories consumed, Time, Distance & Accumulated Repetitions

TELEPHONE ORDERLINE: Quote your name, full address (including post code), card number and expiry date, together with product code F40.
01483 223188 (24hrs)

# The Hawkshead Mere Jacket has been reduced from £39 to merely £29.



We go out of our way to give down-to-earth value for money.

And although we can cut our prices, we never cut corners on quality.

Our Mere Jacket has a sturdy zip fastener, storm flap, and drawstrings at the waist and hem to seal you from the worst of the weather.

And for those brighter summer days we thought the detachable drawstring hood was a good idea.

Take a closer look, and you will see that it also has four deep flap pockets that can hold all your possessions with ease.

Just as well, because at only £29 (plus P&P) you'll need somewhere to keep all your change.

DELIVERY

We try to despatch all orders within seven days but please allow up to twenty eight days for delivery. Next Day delivery is available throughout most of the UK for an extra £3.95 on telephone orders made before 12pm, Mon-Fri.

GUARANTEE

We have a no nonsense guarantee. So if you are not completely satisfied with your purchase simply return it to us within twenty eight days for a full refund or a prompt replacement.

MERE JACKET
65% Polyester.
35% Cotton.
Machine washable
Available in Red, Navy, Green, Navy, Navy, Stone.
Sharewear sizes S,M,L,XL

CODE HV129 £29 WAS £39

TELEPHONE ORDERS
0990 434000
24 HOURS A DAY 7 DAYS A WEEK

hawkshead

Main Street HAWKSHEAD Village, The Lake District (Tel 01539 436073) Near Sale Road, ULVERSTON, The Lake District (Tel 01229 581022) Lower Edward Street, WINDSOR, Berkshire (Tel 01753 [illegible])

Post to: Hawkshead, Main Street, Hawkshead Village, The Lake District LA22 0NW.

| PLEASE SEND ME | CODE | SIZE | COLOUR | QTY | PRICE | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MERE JACKET | HV129 | | | | £29 | |
| MERE JACKET | HV129 | | | | £29 | |
| MERE JACKET | HV129 | | | | £29 | |
| | | | | POSTAGE & PACKING | | £2.95 |
| | | | | TOTAL PAYABLE | | |

Card Number

Switch Only: Issue No. Valid From Expiry Date

Reg. Office, Hawkshead Limited. Reg. No. 2277623. If you would prefer not to receive mailings from selected other companies, please tick this box.

MI2

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £ ..... made payable to HAWKSHEAD. Or I wish to pay the amount shown by ACCESS/VISA/MASTERCARD/DELTA/AMERICAN EXPRESS/SWITCH

MR/MRS/MISS/MS INITIALS SURNAME ADDRESS

POSTCODE DAYTIME TELEPHONE NO. SIGNATURE

# WARNING:
## Shoes so comfortable, you'll forget you're wearing them.

You know the feeling. Can't wait to get home, kick off your shoes and relieve those hot, tired, aching feet.

With Geox shoes for women it is the opposite. They not only promise all day comfort but deliver it.

No wonder they are one of the best selling brands in Italy.

**The revolutionary shoe from Geox**

What makes these shoes different? As comfortable as the day is long?

It's because they have hundreds of tiny holes in the sole.

And here's how it works.

**The shoe that breathes**

Sandwiched between the hard wearing rubber sole and the cushioned, perforated insole is a breathable membrane, unique to Geox.

This stops wet getting in but lets moisture out, stopping your feet becoming hot and tired.

In effect, the shoes breathe letting your feet do the same. The result is your feet stay fresh, dry, cool and comfortable.

Morning, noon and night.

**Comfort and quality**

The Milano loafers shown here are made with supple, top quality calf leather making them soft to the touch and water-repellent.

Linings are breathable and leather insoles perforated for maximum comfort and health.

**No Quibble Guarantee**

If you are not completely satisfied, or you chose the wrong size, return the shoes within seven days and we'll forward the correct size or refund your money immediately.

**Call or post the coupon now**

Order your "shoes that breathe" with the coupon below and post it to us. You can pay by cheque, postal order or Switch.

Better still, call us on 0116 2626500, quote your Switch number and we'll send your revolutionary Geox shoes off to you even quicker.



GEOX
THE SHOE THAT BREATHES



ONLY £39.95 per pair - plus P&P

**Telephone Orders 0116 2626500 (office hours)**

The shoes are available in sizes 3-8. (Continental Sizes 36-41) Please send me

| | Size | Qty | Price | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milano Navy | | | £39.95 | £ |
| Milano Black | | | £39.95 | £ |
| P&P (per pair) £2.95 | | | | |
| Total Payable | | | | |

I enclose a cheque/postal order for £.....payable to Howard & Hallam Ltd or I wish to pay by Switch

Card No. Expiry Date
Issue No.
Mrs/Ms Initials Surname
Address
Postcode
Daytime Tel. Signature

Key No. T/17/1 Send completed coupon to Howard & Hallam Ltd., Devonshire Road, Leicester, LE4 0HT. Allow 28 days for delivery. Reg. No. 529289 England

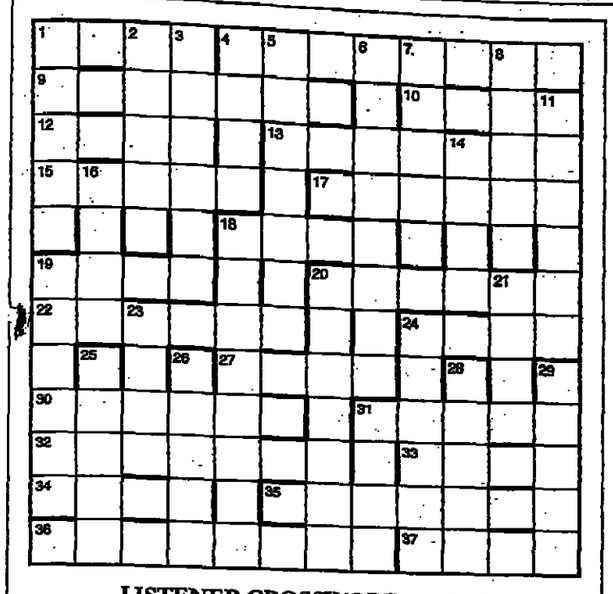
Published by Times Newspapers Limited, 1 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9GF. Printed by Eastern Counties Newspapers Limited, Peterborough PE2 0EF. Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper. ©TNL telephone 0171-782 5000. Saturday, January 17, 1998

هكذا من الأصل



THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

# No 3445: Rogue Characters by Duck



CLUES are of three types in equal measure, each having a rogue character: Type 1 has a rogue character as an extra letter in the clue; Type 2 has a rogue character as a misprint in the definition, and Type 3 consists of a definition and a letter mixture incorporating an extra rogue character that begins at the beginning or ends at the end of a word. The rogue characters taken in order spell the last eight words of a nine-word quotation from a rogue character. The first and ninth words of the quotation can be seen (with justification from the *OED*) as defining the 11 rogue characters that form the unclued answers. Of these 11, some are subcategories and the remainder are members of one particular subcategory. The unchecked letters of the 11 (including letters in one of the 11 only checking with another one of the 11) can be arranged as A PET: A HIPPO INDEED! *Chambers English Dictionary* is recommended but does not give two (BC) proper nouns. These are incidentally in the *Oxford Dictionary of Quotations* which can supply the quotation. *Brewer's Dictionary of Phrase and Fable* (15th edn, 1995) would also be a help.

ACROSS

4 Ire from small reptile, one restricted by broken toe (8)
9 Nothing right about editor — always one attracted to bunk? (7)
10 No longer staying in Jock's enclosure (4)
12 Behan to appear literary — 'ad confidence (4)
13 Stumper, prone to misjudgement no longer, in rare bye lapse (7)
15 Dingo that is trailing round old city (5)
17 Ray taken in by impossible idea (6)
18 Prisoner — one imprisoned for sin within American clan (4)
19 Common scold not put down as being attractive (4)
20 Clothes pole — a thing made of wood (6)
22 Put men in Chinese house as dwelling (6)
24 Eastern prince will be beheaded? Sure! (4)
30 Insulate home with gable perhaps at back (6)
32 Pressure as before brings rattiness (7)
33 Shakespearean cheers various productions (4)
34 Stain is hard to get off a little later (4)
35 Muscle that's unaffected when it turns black (7)

DOWN

2 Red emergency alert was grievous (5)
3 Cardy? Simpleton, on losing head, eats it! (6)
4 Was prophet to be listened to? (4)
5 Moving uncertainly in lingerie (7)
6 Dinge? Club house needs chandelier on high (8)
8 Send note to prevent upset (5)
14 Ferocious tribesmen may be smart (4)
16 A European lake's border is where you'll find this mineral (4)
18 I'm on sanctuary committee as expert in church law (8)
20 Some stalls selling small glass cubes (7)
21 Duke's drunk male getting around queen (4)
23 Bass in East Anglia is drunk warm (4)
24 Muslim college almost creating a form of scare (6)
25 Are national newspaper's columns read? (5)
28 The hemlock-drinker's pale, not half tiring badly in company (5)
31 You might have done time inside — in bird (4)

LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3445
in association with Waterstone's

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

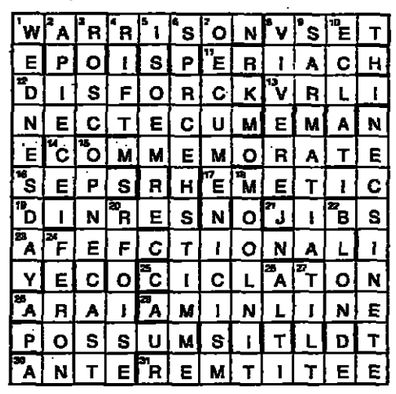
Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3445, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE, by Wednesday, January 28.

W
WATERSTONE'S

The winner will receive a Waterstone's book token worth £75. Five runners-up will each receive a book token worth £10




Waterstone's first opened a bookshop in 1982, and now has a branch in virtually every major town and city in the UK and Ireland. Each of its 100-odd branches has at least 50,000 titles in stock and can order any book currently in print in the UK. Out-of-Print Booksearch, 01892 522700. Mailing Service and Signed First Editions, 01225 448596. For your nearest branch of Waterstone's, call 01225 448595.



**Solution and notes for No 3442: Battle of the Sexes by Phi**

THE quotation was NEC TECUM POSSUM VIVERE NEC SINE TE (I cannot live with you or without you), descriptive of, say, certain marital states, and written by Martial. Clues were broadly thematic, and marital clues under the heading martial (Across) were entered with a pair of letters reversed; likewise, martial clues under the heading marital (down). Note also that 1 across began WAR- and 1 down WED-.

The winner is: G. Cowan, Ruislip, Middlesex.

The runners up are: E. Long, Carlisle; S. Hewitt, Haverfordwest; M. Irvine, Manchester; J. Harries, Bromley, Kent; A. Sobey; Hindhead, Surrey.

BRIDGE

# by Robert Sheehan

YOUR PARTNER opens the bidding with One Heart, you respond One Spade, and your partner bids Two Clubs. What would you bid with this hand?

♠KQ432 ♥Q2 ♦1082 ♣AQJ

Your side should have enough strength to make a game, yet you have no clear game bid.

You cannot bid no-trumps without a diamond stopper, your spades are not strong enough for a jump, you have inadequate support for hearts, and a club raise is inappropriate with only three card support. In any case, raises are not forcing.

The way out of this dilemma is to play a bid of the fourth suit as artificial. A player will normally not want to use the fourth suit in a natural sense — if he is strong there he will rebid in no trumps. If you use this method a bid of the fourth suit says to your partner: "I have a good hand but I don't have any clear way of continuing. Please describe your hand further." Thus on the hand above you bid Two Diamonds, establishing a forcing situation and asking for more information.

But note well that by bidding the fourth suit you deny having an obvious way forward, which in most cases means your hand is not suitable for a limit bid.

The first question of the Christmas Competition was on this theme. The auction starts:

| W | N | E | S |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 C | Pass | 1 H | Pass |
| 1 S | Pass | ? | |

You were asked what would you bid as East on this hand:

♠Q32 ♥A9832 ♦95 ♣KQ7

When this hand occurred in the 1997 Lederer Memorial Trophy Victor Silverstone sensibly bid Three Clubs, which his partner passed. These were the two hands:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | N | |
| ♠AK75 ♥Q6 ♦K3 ♣J10954 | W E | ♠Q32 ♥A9832 ♦95 ♣KQ7 |
| | S | |

Not much to it I hear you say. But at all the other tables East-West got too high, often because East could not resist bidding Two Diamonds at his second turn. That got his partnership involved in a murky auction, and they usually ended in 3NT, which has no chance on a diamond lead.

The limit bid of Three Clubs is much better than Two Diamonds. West will usually have five or more clubs after he starts with One Club and rebids One Spade, so to give jump preference to Three Clubs expresses the East hand perfectly — near game-going values, but prepared to play in Three Clubs if his partner has a minimum.

I gave Three Clubs 10 points, Two Diamonds 4, Two Clubs and Two Spades 2 each.

The winner of the jeroboam of Moët & Chandon champagne was Richard Banstead of Perth, Tayside.

WORD ANSWERS

**Answers from page 40**

*PERPETUUM MOBILE*
(b) Perpetual motion. The Latin means "the perpetually moving neuter thing". The phrase is formed by analogy from *primum mobile*, the theological term for the original mover.

*REGOLITH*
(a) The unconsolidated solid material covering the bedrock of a planet. In Greek *rhēgos* means a rug or blanket and *lithos* is a stone.

*SALUMERIA*
(c) A delicatessen. From the Latin *sal*, Italian *sale* salt. *Salume* means salted meat. And a *salumeria* is an Italian pork butcher or grocer's shop.

*PECKERWOOD*
(c) A poor white person in American slang, in which it can also mean a woodpecker.

TWO BRAINS

**Answers from page 40**

**Question 1:**
5325 and -5325. Two negative numbers multiplied together always yield a positive result.

**Question 2:**
Ball

CHESS

# by Raymond Keene

VIEWS on the new format of the Fide (World Chess Federation) *Championship were mixed.* The German magazine *Der Spiegel* and Hans Ree, the Dutch grandmaster and commentator, both thought, rightly as it turned out, that the Groningen winner would be exhausted by the time he had to face Karpov in Lausanne. I had felt that Anand, the Indian grandmaster, would remain favourite against Karpov. At first he showed no sign of fatigue and game two was particularly exciting.

**White: Viswanathan Anand; Black: Anatoly Karpov. Fide World Championship, Lausanne, January 1998**
**Ruy Lopez**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | e4 | e5 | 2 | Nf3 | Nc6 |
| 3 | Bb5 | a6 | 4 | Ba4 | Nf6 |
| 5 | 0-0 | Be5 | | | |

This sharp line is unusual for Karpov, who normally plays 5 . . . Be7.

6 c3

An alternative is 6 Nxe5 intending 6 . . . Nxe5 7 d4. Anand tried this against Ivanchuk, Las Palmas 1996, but doubtless believed Karpov would be well armed.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | ... | b5 | 7 | Bb3 | d6 |
| 8 | a4 | Bg4 | 9 | d3 | 0-0 |
| 10 | h3 | Bxf3 | | | |

Granting White the bishop pair but Karpov hopes for a swift counter-attack against White's queenside.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 11 | Qxf3 | Na5 | 12 | Bc2 | b4 |
| 13 | Nd2 | Rb8 | 14 | Qe2 | Re8 |
| 15 | Nf3 | bxc3 | 16 | bxc3 | Nb3 |
| 17 | Bxb3 | Rxb3 | 18 | d4 | |

White's aim is to capture Black's pawn on a6 and furnish himself with a powerful passed a-pawn.

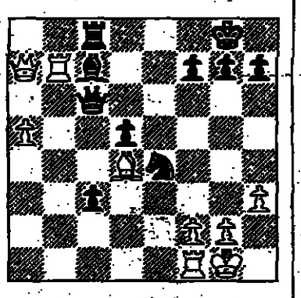
18 ... exd4 19 cxd4 Rxf3

Karpov sacrifices the exchange in order to gain two connected passed pawns in the centre and pressure against White's king. The alternative 19 . . . Rxe4 allows 20 Be3 when White has threats of Qxa6 and Nd2. Black's rook on b3 is also somewhat exposed.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 20 | Qxf3 | Bxd4 | 21 | Ra2 | Nxe4 |
| 22 | Qd3 | c5 | 23 | Qxa6 | |

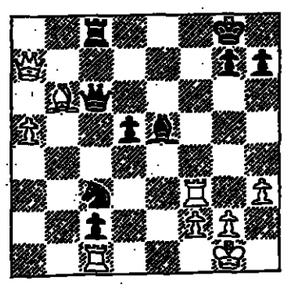
With time trouble approaching, the game resolves itself into a race between opposing attacks and rival sets of passed pawns.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23 | ... | d5 | 24 | a5 | c4 |
| 25 | Be3 | Be5 | 26 | Bb6 | Qd7 |
| 27 | Qa7 | Qc6 | 28 | Bd4 | Bc7 |
| 29 | Rb2 | c3 | 30 | Rb7 | Rc8 |



Here, according to Kasparov, who was following the game with great interest, White could have forced a win by means of 31 a6 Qd6 32 Rxc7 Qxc7 33 Qxc7 Rxc7 34 a7 Rc8 35 Ra1-c2 36 Rc1 Nd6 37 Rxc2 Nc4 38 Rc1 Kf8 39 Rb1 and White wins. Alternatively, 31 a6 c2 32 Rc1 h6 33 Rb2 Qd6 34 Rbxc2 Qh2+ 35 Kf1 Re8 36 Be3 Nd2+ 37 Ke2 Nc4 38 Rxc4 dxc4 39 Rxc4 Bf4 40 Re4 Rxe4 41 Qa8+ Bb8 42 Qxe4 again with a winning position for White.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 31 | Bb6 | Be5 | 32 | Rxf7 | c2 |
| 33 | Rc1 | Nc3 | 34 | Rf3 | |



Karpov misses 34 . . . Ne2+ 35 Kf1 Qe8 36 Kxe2 Bb8+ 37 Re3 Qb5+ and Black emerges on top. Karpov played one safety move too many.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 34 | ... | h6 | 35 | Qf7+ | Kh8 |
| 36 | Re3 | d4 | 37 | Rxe5 | d3 |
| 38 | Bd4 | Rg8 | 39 | Re6 | d2 |
| 40 | Rxc6 | dxc1Q+ | | | |
| 41 | Kh2 | | | | |

If now 41 . . . Qg5-42 f4 or 41 . . . Ne2 42 Bxg7+ Rxg7 43 Qf8+ Kh7 44 Qf5+ Kh8 45 Rc8+ Rg8 46 Qf6+ Kh7 47 Rc7+ and White wins.

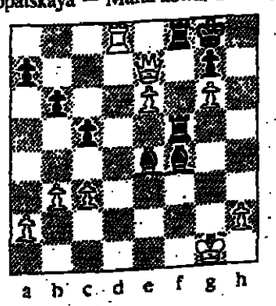
41 ... Qd2 42 Rc6
**Black resigns**

Stormy end to a tempestuous game.

WINNING MOVE

***By Raymond Keene***

White to play. From the game Lopatskaya — Mana-kowa, Elista 1997. With a rook and two bishops, Black has excellent value for his queen. However, this was rendered irrelevant by White's winning continuation. The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society. Postcards please to Winning Move, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The answer will be published next Saturday.




Solution to last week's competition: 1 Rh8+ (1 . . . Kxh8 2 Qh5+ Kg8 3 Be6+ mating). The winner is M. Anderson of Coventry.

Christmas winning move: 1Qxe5+. The winner is L.A. Edwards of Leicester.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

# by Tim Wapshott

THANKS TO the Internet and *sans* Freddie Mercury, Queen are back in the British singles charts. They can attribute their success in no small part to the Web. Brian May's emotional ballad *No One But You (Only The Good Die Young)* was slipped on to a compilation album of the band's rock classics, *Queen Rocks*, which was released at the end of last year. And there it might have lain unnoticed but for a campaign which smouldered away in cyberspace.

Fans deluged the band's Web site (*http://queen-fip.com*) with requests for the song to be released as a single — and the overwhelming interest prompted Queen's record label, EMI, to do so. It is Queen's first song for six years and now it has made it into the Top Ten.

Even without Mercury, it appears there is plenty of creative energy still gurgling through the Queen logo. The group must appreciate that without Freddie there can be no more live shows and no more trademark extravagant videos. But first the band launched their own Web site and, provisionally pencilled in for next month, the band will soon launch their first CD-Rom action-adventure game, **Queen: The Eye.**



Queen's Brian May, whose song was a hit with fans on the Net

Distributed in the UK by Electronic Arts, the role-playing romp features more than 30 characters in a post-apocalyptic era. As Dubroc, you must overcome a host of challenges in various worlds. The game has an unusual autobiographical tone, since the action takes place in settings wholly inspired by the band's artwork during two fertile decades. The soundtrack will pump out a blend of both original and remixed Queen tracks while the sumptuous graphics are entirely based around the band's original album and video imagery.

DAVID BOWIE has also found a new artistic bent. When he is not writing or performing, he is a dab hand at painting. Now he has published two of his works on the Internet. As well as titillating his fans, he also hopes the exposure will make him a few bob since both works are for sale.

One is an "intense self-portrait", the other a tender study of Iggy Pop capturing his "manic" side and both are found at Bowie's Web site (*http:www.bowieart.com*). To clarify his aims, Bowie released the following hunky-dory clarification: "I want to reach a wider spectrum of people with certain multiples that I make."

THERE is still time to enter Cyberspace Forty but you will have to be quick as it closes on Tuesday. You could win one of six pairs of **Intel Create & Share Camera Packs** — worth more than £2,000 — which are all you need to get connected for video phone calls. You will be able to make video calls over the Web as well as regular phone lines, take snapshots from the PC, make short videos, send e-mail postcards or enhance, morph and print snapshots.

The packs include hardware and software designed to work on a Pentium PC running at 90MHz and higher. There are two versions, worth £150 and £199 respectively. The USB version is intended for faster PCs with Pentium/MMX or Pentium II technology with a USB port while the PCI version is best for older machines. Intel will ensure our winners get the right versions.

Cyberspace Forty is open to all readers. To enter, tell us in no more than 150 words why you would like to win a pair of Intel Camera Packs. Who would you like — or least like — to see on the phone? Who would you give the second camera to and why? How would the PC video cameras improve your life? Your ideas could be ingenious or purely practical, just tell us why. Send your entries, together with your full name, address and home telephone number, to: Cyberspace Forty, Computer Games and Pastimes, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. You can also e-mail your entry to *cyber@dircon.co.uk*

CROSS WORDS

**Answers from page 40**

*Florence Nightingale, one word. Copal, TEARS, SEARS, STARS, STARE, STALE, STILE, SMILE (for example).*

NEW SOFTWARE

THERE IS a new centre of the universe for space combat sims and it is Sheffield. That is where Particle Systems, developer of the impressive I-War, is based.

You control a massive 150m-long Dreadnaught spacecraft, which is crawling through a galaxy slowly being colonised by man. At any point in the action you can switch between one of four roles on the craft. As captain you take the ship into battles against enemy fleets, as pilot you must weave the craft into the heart of combat.

Playing gunner sees you launching missiles against a range of enemy targets, while as engineer you must divert all your energies to repairing damage to shields and engines caused to the Dreadnaught in explosive confrontations.

In all there are 40 missions to take on, from simple space battles to complex docking operations. The graphics have an immense depth and incorporate an accurate astronomical database of the 10,000 stars nearest Earth.

While the many keyboard controls at first seem thoroughly overwhelming, this quickly passes with practice. The only oddity in the space title is the lack of multiplayer options but these may follow in a sequel. As a game for one player, however, it remains ambitious and engrossing.

■ **Verdict: 8 out of 10. Classy and immense space combat sim. £39.99.**



I-War: impressive

JUST over 18 months ago, Interplay released its smooth pool title Virtual Pool and notched up more than two million sales. Now it gets a facelift and makes a play for our screens as the VR Sports Virtual Pool 2.

Like the original title, it plays exceedingly well with options for zooming into or away from the table to ponder your best shots. Just as useful, the tracking toggle helps you line up perfect shots by showing with coloured lines exactly where every ball will end up.

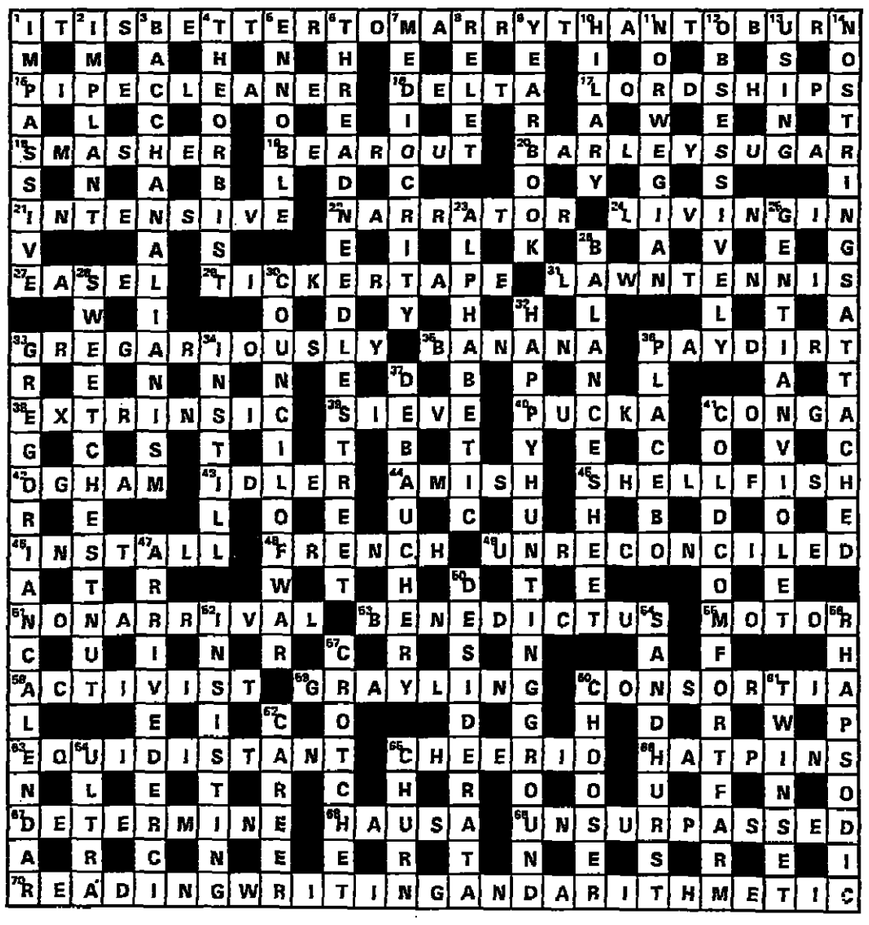
If you ever had problems working out which part of the cushion to aim for in any given shot, this facility will certainly help you to improve your game in the pub. VR Sports Virtual Pool 2 also offers up nine international variations for the game, including English pub rules.

As before, Steve Davis and Ronnie Sullivan lend the title their support, offering audio commentaries and fronting training videos about the sport. For this follow-up, all elements of the title have been enhanced, from the ball graphics to the video tutorials. Multiplayer network games are also supported.

If you already own the original, perhaps you can live without the sequel. If you don't, you will be hard-pressed to find a more rounded pool sim than this on the market.

■ **Verdict: 9 out of 10. Still the best pool game in town. £39.99.**

SOLUTION TO JUMBO CROSSWORD 145



The winner of an Alfred Dunhill AD 2000, worth £125, is Mrs M. Newbery, of Looe, Cornwall

## MODERN MANNERS

### by John Morgan

*Send your queries to Morgan's Modern Manners, The Times, Weekend, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN*

**Q** **We were a Christmas party of ten: grandparents, parents and children. I was second to be served, and having helped myself to accompaniments, was about to start eating when I heard my grandson say "Grandma, have you no manners? Mummy's not even sitting down yet!" My reaction was that such a delicious meal should be eaten hot, and had I waited for everybody to be served, it would have been cold and inedible. Should not the host, in view of the number of people to be served, have urged everyone to eat while the food was hot? Should not the boy have been upbraided for speaking to his elder in such an unmannerly and arrogant way?** — Moira A. Bell, Leven, Fife.

**A** It was indeed your grandson who was guilty of bad manners, rather than you. It is not his place to correct his elders, particularly when the advice given is incorrect. It is not necessary for guests (especially large groups) to wait until everyone is served before they start to eat, although the sophisticated guest will always hover a few moments before tucking in.



**Q** **I purchased a pair of chinos from the nation's favourite outfitter — the same were utterly creaseless. The material does not take kindly to attempts to crease it, leading me to think they are not meant to be creased. Is this so? And is this the difference between chinos and trousers, as I can see no other distinction?** — Tom Lloyd, Barnet, Hertfordshire.

**A** Stylistically, chinos fall midway between jeans and trousers in the formality stakes. Generally speaking, they look best if they are left largely unpressed. This is because chinos are casual cotton trousers and do not respond well to large amounts of pressing.

**Q** **I frequently enter a building via a door protected by a combination lock, and almost invariably someone wishing to enter comes up behind me. My security-conscious side tells me I should shut the door in their face, but my polite side usually wins and I hold the door open to strangers. How would you deal with this situation?** — Mrs Stephanie Jenkins, Headington, Oxford.

**A** I would quickly concoct a phrase that sounds both helpful and inquisitive, such as "May I ask whom you have come to see?" and await the stranger's response.

**Q** **While I appreciate a woman need not stand up when another woman enters a room, should one, however, stand up when introduced to shake hands?** — Name and address withheld.

**A** Certain types of grand dames of the past resolutely remained seated when introductions were made, but now that social life defers far less to rank and age, such behaviour can look affected. So unless a woman is particularly old or infirm, it is both gracious and practical if all parties stand when being introduced.

**Q** **I understand that it is quite acceptable for a dinner party host not to open the bottle of wine brought by his guests, if he has already chosen the wine to accompany the dinner. But how should guests respond to the drinks party host who offers them only the cheapest possible plonk, while whisking away their (far superior) offerings to line his own cellar?** — Name and address withheld

**A** It is not usual for guests to bring bottles of wine to a drinks party, unless the host has specifically asked them to do so — in which case he should serve it. In all other cases, the guest should simply smile and say nothing. As with dinner parties, it is then the host's prerogative to decide what drinks are served.

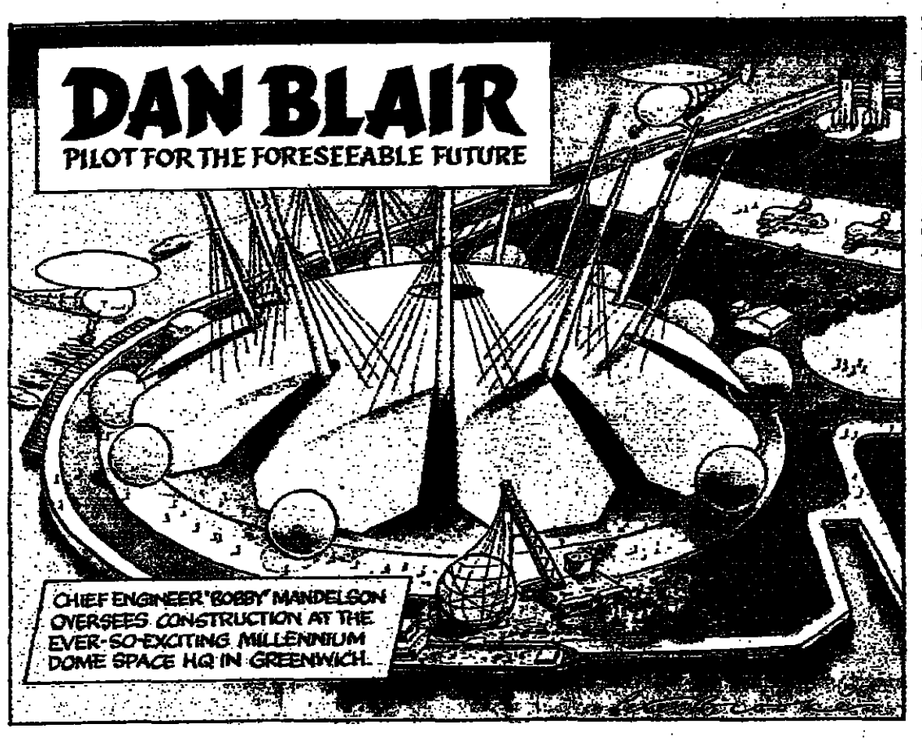
**Q** **The deputy tutor of my adult education class sent Christmas cards to all the members of her group, except me. We have always been on friendly terms and I know she appreciates my work. I am very hurt — should I do something about it and, if so, what?** — S. P., Ilford.

**A** My gut reaction is for you to ignore this omission, as any discussion could be embarrassing for the tutor and humiliating for you. However, should you wish to pursue the matter I would suggest a tangential approach by saying something along the lines of "Did you get my card? This year I sent out so many I quite lost track of whom I mailed? Don't you find the list grows every year?"

**Q** **When speaking on the telephone, what is the polite response to strangers, such as sales people, who offer their first name only? Am I impolite in sticking to my formal mode of address and in avoiding the use of their first names altogether?** — Vanessa M. Wilkinson (Mrs), Saffron Walden, Essex.

**A** You are not impolite in sticking to a formal mode of address. All you have to do is to ask "Could I have your surname for reference, should I need to ring you back?" You can then refer to the sales person as Mr or Miss So-and-So. This will leave them in little doubt as to how you expect to be addressed.

● *The author is Associate Editor of* GQ.




## WORD WATCHING

***By Philip Howard***

PERPETUUM MOBILE
a. A Vatican edict
b. Perpetual motion
c. An art form

REGOLITH
a. Solids
b. A semiprecious stone
c. An umpire at polo

SALUMERIA
a. A freshwater fish
b. Muscular training
c. A delicatessen

PECKERWOOD
a. A cabinet inlay
b. A non-commissioned officer
c. A poor white

Answers on page 39

## TWO BRAINS

***By Raymond Keene***

We have seen in earlier columns the power of the human memory. Equally amazing is the ability of some to multiply giant numbers and calculate distant roots. On June 18, 1980, Shakuntala Devi multiplied together two 13-digit numbers in 28 seconds. They were 7,686,369,774,870 x 2,465,099,745,779. The answer, by the way, is 18,947,668,177,995,426,462,773,730. Mrs Devi also extracted the 23rd root of a 201-digit number in 50 seconds.

**Question 1:**
What are the two square roots of 28355625?

**Question 2:**
Party (. . . . .) Sphere
What missing word has the same meaning as the two outer words?

Answers on page 39

## CROSS WORDS

### by Brian Greer

Lewis Carroll was an ingenious exponent of many of the forms of wordplay which were the precursors of cryptic crossword clueing. He excelled in anagrams, particularly for people's names, such as **Flit on, cheering angel (8,11)**, and posed the challenge of making the letters of the following sentence into one word: **Nor do we.** He composed many acrostics — lines of verse in which the first letters spelt out words (mostly names of young female friends) or provided clues to a sequence of words, the first (and sometimes also last) letters of which could be combined in the same way. (The invention of the double acrostic has been attributed to Queen Victoria.) He also wrote clues in the form of rhyming charades, such as:

**My first lends his aid when I plunge into trade**
**My second in jollifications**
**My whole, laid on thinnish, imparts a neat finish**
**To pictorial representations**

Above all, he delighted in puns. For example, the description of "The Hunting of the Snark", as "An Agony, in Eight Fits", puns on "fit", an archaic word for "canto" (hence the answer to 10 across in Wednesday's crossword, the Baker being the Snark's victim).

Other forms of word puzzles were his own invention. The most successful was "Doublets" in which one word has to be transformed into another through a chain of words each differing from its predecessor by one letter. Thus HEAD can become TAIL via HEAL, TEAL, TELL, TALL (see if you can change TEARS into SMILE). Words, also, he invented, particularly portmanteau words which pack two meanings into one. For example, "slithy" in the poem *Jabberwocky* is a combination of "lithe" and "slimy".

We suspect he would have enjoyed Wednesday's puzzle and today's Jumbo, composed in his honour.

● *The writer is Crossword Editor of* The Times

Clue answers on page 39

## PICTURE LINE




READERS are invited to suggest what Foreign Secretary Robin Cook and his girlfriend Gaynor Regan might be saying to one another.

This picture will appear again next week with an entry chosen from those submitted.

Send "speech bubble" suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to PictureLine, Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, January 20.

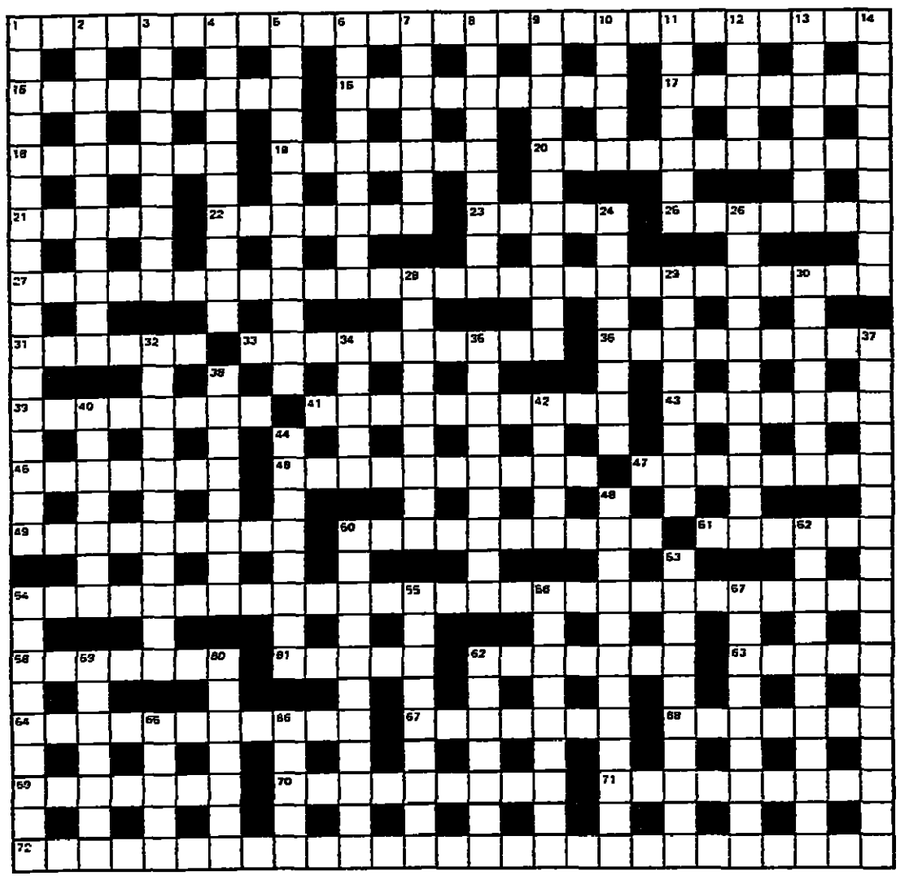
Last week's winning caption, left, was submitted by J.F. Gray of Billericay, Essex.



## JUMBO CROSSWORD 147




The prize for the first correct solution to be opened will be an Alfred Dunhill AD2000, worth £125, the world's first interchangeable, capless rollerball/ballpoint pen. Streamlined and made from black resin with a gold-plated clip, it has perfect writing balance. Entries should be sent to: Jumbo Crossword 147, *The Times* 1 Pennington Street London E1 9XN to arrive by Thursday January 29. The name of the winner will be published in Weekend on Saturday, January 31



NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

..... POSTCODE .....

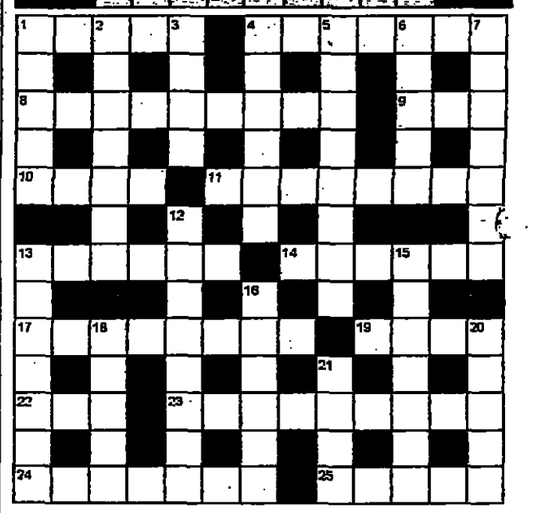
ACROSS

1 A fit ending to a strange quest (3,3,5,3,1,6,3,3)
15 One may have elevated chat at college course (2-7)
16 US curbs critical attacks on losing leader (9)
17 Note dye's last to go in lather for the use of tanners (7)
18 All rice could develop this botanic feature (3-4)
19 Number cipher in English (7)
20 Dossier on foul and common people (4,3,4)
21 Girl's a source of infection (5)
22 Travelling team — or a side on the move (7)
23 It's holy raiment at Mecca, primarily (5)
25 Complained, being woken up after midnight? (7)
27 Duchess's hard-nosed advice on raising charges (5,7,2,4,6,3)
31 Object about girl being followed (6)
33 First thought to hit infant (10)
36 Measure gold after that's worked in Welsh town (9)
39 Notice sent back by French war photographer (8)
41 Creating the new pub, I have to include round fermentation tank (10)
43 Getting fourth and fifth grades in tests may be depressing experiences (7)
45 Crescent shape let into musical instrument (7)
46 *I come with choir performing* high burlesque (5-5)
47 He takes curry round at great sacrifice (8)
49 I'll remember Latin name back in dim obscurity (9)
50 Foreboding grips one, as Pisces will appear in annual cycle (6,4)
51 Plant getting pecked by bird (6)
54 Advice to girl at tea-party setting out why any man should hate to use you (4,3,6,3,4,3,4)
58 Examine insignificant person without power (7)
61 Contrive to move to and fro (5)
62 Too much invested in prison building in the country (7)
63 *Washerwoman had to return,* having lost a sash (5)
64 I sulk at slow moving composer (11)
67 Is returning more drunk, we hear, from part of Russia (7)
68 What whaler seeks in number or quality (7)
69 The Rock put out by Tangier? (7)
70 Come down heavily with state when pursuing cannabis mixture (3-6)
71 We must learn parts of locks on a canal at the outset (9)
72 Morse's statement taken from an Oxford don (3,4,3,4,3,6,4)

DOWN

1 Novel method of demonstrating earth's rotation (9,8)
2 Errs in chest repairs and adds a second handle (11)
3 Where one might be riding high, needing support — on having taken heroin? (9)
4 As having dropped a high explosive left little record on top of building, was it this? (10)
5 Giving gold to church annoys — they have stacks of platters! (12)
6 Check soundly with doctor over ailment — it should stop one getting run down (4,5)
7 One untruthful article has upset Asian (7)
8 Wind — it has an unknown *harshness (9)*
9 Boss is to get some drinks in (5,6)
10 Chap doing a spell from July to November, initially (5)
11 Horse has a problem going over seaweed (7)
12 Admit newspaperman is possessed (5)
13 *Makes secret investigations to* trap city type (7)
14 Start off Beatles song around a festival (6,3)
24 Creatures cross two rivers (4,4)
26 Crop of pruned and espaliered nuts (3-4,4)
28 The art of building strengthener into gumshoes (9)
29 Discuss an address prior to deliveries (4,4)
30 Book Zola's rewritten on upcoming Italian city (7)
32 It will make an impression to vote in corrupt Tory people with no heart (11)
34 Leading competitor would be *beginning to worry over this* archery shot (5)
35 Set up a sailor with Arabian lover (9)
37 Rocky stand is unsuitable and made without solidity (17)
38 Piece of furniture examined with curiosity that is acceptable (4-4)
40 Like some doges, on being elevated among fools (7)
42 Island with top eroded in a way indicating glaciation (5)
44 TV programme revealing singer's method (4,4)
48 Goodbye to spicy dish — thanks for fishy one (12)
50 Lasting enmity over a roll I start *to call in highly segregated* classes? (11)
52 Upset, as I lose ruby that was very red (11)
53 One may come under pressure to write thank-you letters (10)
54 Warning to drivers in article wrongly grasped by drunk (4,5)
55 Support for shift workers, to straighten out normal procedure (5,4)
56 I set wader free here? (9)
57 Charges too little rent? Rent's left due anyway (9)
59 Became a poser — then one took food to achieve gratification (7)
60 Circus device to capture rest of audience (7)
62 Spiteful woman outside nude show (7)
65 It gives rise to some terrific stories (3-2)
66 Source of pigment one gets in ocean (5)

## TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



### No 1305

ACROSS

1 Bogus doctor (5)
4 Drum; embroidery frame (7)
8 Water-ski board; (driver) lose control in wet (9)
9 (Tide) recede (3)
10 State of pique; blow hard (4)
11 Paraffin oil (8)
13 Of the flesh (6)
14 (Eg face) spotty (6)
17 An emperor; a pig *(Orwell)* (8)
19 Responsibility (4)
22 Mother of Cain (3)
23 Hustling for success (2,3,4)
24 Football teams (7)
25 Utterly untypical (5)

DOWN

1 Annul (verdict) (5)
2 Rock as water source (7)
3 French mil. cap (4)
4 England's longest river (6)
5 Memory aid (8)
6 Grossly fat (5)
7 Elastic; toughly flexible (7)
12 Poetry muse; a steam organ (8)
13 Call *(meeting)* (7)
15 Emergency (landing); byword for flatness (7)
16 Span. Assembly; a Conquistador (6)
18 Irritate (5)
20 (Eg dust) particle (5)
21 Hard of hearing (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1304

ACROSS: 1 Brand new 7 Drape 8 Grey Friar 9 Jam 10 Sing 11 Hoodoo 13 Vishnu 14 Gentle 17 Cherry 18 Bull 20 War 22 Tonsorial 23 Needs 24 Plug-ugly

DOWN: 1 Bogus 2 Avernus 3 Duff 4 Editor 5 Banjo 6 Termite 7 Dredger 12 Inserts 13 Viewing 15 Touring 16 Brunel 17 Cruel 19 Lolly 21 Gong

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

*NEW TIMES CROSSWORD TITLES NOW AVAILABLE!*

The Times Two Crosswords (Book 7-£2.99), The Times Crosswords (Book 20 Cryptic-£2.99), The Times Jumbo Crosswords Book 3 is available to Times readers for just £4 (RRP£4.99) while supplies last from The Times Bookshop.
The Times Computer Crosswords on disk may also be ordered, with free delivery, along with any other books from The Times Bookshop.
To order simply call 0990 134 499 for credit card orders or for further details. If paying by cheque/PO (£) please make payable to News Books/Crosswords and send to: The Times Bookshop, PO Box 345, Falmouth, TR11 2YX. Delivery in 10-14 days and subject to availability.

